# DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XXI, No. 41 Section 1 May 18, 1926.

IN CONGRESS

The press to-day reports that consideration of farm relief legislation will be resumed by the House to-day.

Lloyd S. Tenny, Assistant Chief, Bureau of Agricultural Economics, told the Senate agricultural committee yesterday that the department would withhold the proposal to standardize practices in the fruit and vegetable industry until the committee had completed its investigation, according to the press to-day.

The House yesterday, without a record vote, passed the bill for the retirement of Federal employees at the age of seventy, after a service of fifteen years or more, on a maximum annuity of $1,000, according to the press to-day.

The House yesterday passed a bill prescribing a uniform subsistence allowance of $7 a day for Government employees. Those having to travel in foreign countries will be allowed not more than $8 a day. In lieu of both of these provisions which provide for the payment of actual expenses not to exceed the prescribed maximum, the bill authorizes department heads to set $6 a day for domestic travel and $7 for foreign travel, regardless of the actual expenses incurred. The bill was sponsored by Representative Madden, chairman of the House appropriations committee, and Representative Begg, of Ohio. (Press, May 18.)

---

NEW COTTON EXCHANGE HEAD

A New York dispatch to-day states that Daniel T. Hubbard, jr., a member of the firm of Hubbard Brothers, cotton brokers, was nominated yesterday for president of the New York Cotton Exchange, to succeed Richard T. Harriss, who has held that position the last year. John W. Jay was nominated for vice president, to succeed Mr. Hubbard.

---

NEW YORK MAYOR ON FARM MOVEMENT

The New York press to-day reports: "'With the desertion of the farm for the lure of the city comes a relaxation of the standard so conducive to strong bodies and the propagation of a strong race,' declared Mayor Walker yesterday, in an appeal to the mayors of the principal cities to further the renascent movement that seeks to give city boys and girls a thorough education in agriculture and place them on the farms. 'I see a vital significance in a movement,' the Mayor said, 'which plans to awaken a renewed interest in agriculture by an education in scientific farming which robs the tilling of the soil of the harsher features with which it is so frequently associated in the public mind.' The Mayor's action is the result of his interest in the National Farm School Conference, to be held June 2 to 7 at New York. This conference, which has the endorsement of President Coolidge, is called principally to interest city boys and girls in adopting farming as a career and to avail themselves of the free courses given at the National Farm School at Doylestown, Pa. The conference will be opened by special commissioners from the United States Department of Agriculture. More than thirty-five Governors will send representatives and Mayors of the principal cities will send personal delegates. United States Senator Arthur Capper of Kansas is honorary chairman of the conference."

---

Section 2

Agricultural Relief Legislation

In an editorial on the farm relief bills, The Economist for May 15 says: "....Undoubtedly the success-temporary, at least--of Government price control schemes in other countries is largely responsible for the faith that some Americans have in artificial means of improving farm earning power. But this country produces no such proportion of the world's foodstuffs as the British rubber plantations do of the world's requirements of that commodity, or as Brazil does of coffee. Moreover, there is a wide field of substitution of one food for another in response to price changes, while nothing else quite takes the place of rubber or of coffee. If the equalization scheme to take care of our export surplus of wheat were initially effective in raising the net price to our farmers, the result would be not merely to raise the domestic price to an artificial level, which might perhaps be bearable, but also to encourage the production of more wheat in America. Up to a certain point, determined by the price in the outside markets and our tariff, American consumers could be taxed to insure the farmers prices they considered satisfactory. But with production stimulated by an enforced price and not by consumptive demand and all the uncertainties of each year's foreign production to content with, the equalization scheme would be headed for certain disaster."

Cooperative Organizations in Canada

An editorial in The Farmer's Advocate (Ontario) for May 13 says: "Cooperative organizations are making rapid growth in Canada and the United States and their turnover is enormous. Organizations of great magnitude, such as the wheat pools in Canada, are functioning successfully, and there are thousands of less importance that are serving smaller communities and other branches of the industry. Cooperation is now an assured fact, but the pathway is strewn with failures.....No organization will hang together without efficient management and sufficient working capital. A cooperative enterprise is a business just as is a general store or a wholesale house. It must function efficiently or the farmers involved as members will not fail to see the weakness and desert the ship before it runs aground. After all the secret of success is good management. A business-like board of directors would not attempt to carry on without sufficient working capital, nor would the same kind of a board load themselves up with an overhead that the volume of business did not warrant. A large share of cooperative enterprises have gone to pieces because they have tried to make money for their members by running the business 'on the cheap'. It costs money to transact business, and no kind of an organization can avoid the expense. Where cooperation can serve most effectively is in assembling product in larger volume, improving the quality of the goods offered, in developing new markets, and in preventing the cut-throat competition between producers themselves."

Cotton in Africa

"Africa--Its Cotton and Its Railroads" is the title of a lengthy article, with a map showing the various cotton growing districts of the country, in Commerce Monthly (New York) for May. This says in part: "The exploitation of the almost untouched resources in the vast interior of the African Continent is one of the large projects of the twentieth century. The renewed energy devoted to this task since the end of the World War suggests large gains in the supply of important commodities but may eventually mean as well great changes in the allotment of markets among producing nations....To date African cotton growing has developed along two lines. In some sections there has been the construction of irrigation works to make crops, with the aid of the flood waters which result in so many of Africa's rivers after the equatorial rains. Of an

entirely different character has been the spread of cultivation in the expansive grasslands which make up the great plateau of the African interior.....By far the greatest part of Africa's cotton crop is still found along the Nile River from the great delta whose vertices are marked by Alexandria, Port Said and Cairo, along its valley to Khartum, in the second triangle formed there by the junction of the Blue and the White Nile and finally in the region of the Nile headwaters around Lake Victoria Nyanza. Egypt still produces three-fourths of the cotton crop of the African Continent, 70 per cent of this country's cotton land lying in the Delta and the remainder along the Nile in upper Egypt. The entire agriculture of the country depends on irrigation which has made cotton, the great summer crop, possible where formerly only winter crops were grown. What this has meant to the prosperity of Egypt is evident from the fact that cotton lint makes up 85 per cent of Egypt's exports...."

Foreign Trade An editorial in The Wall Street Journal for May 17 says: "Exports of merchandise in April were $388,000,000 and imports $398,000,000, making an import balance of $10,000,000. Thus for four months in succession imports have exceeded exports. Also, the total of exports for the ten months ended with April is about $112,000,000 less than a year ago. Notwithstanding what is commonly called an 'unfavorable' balance, our export trade still is in a healthy condition. Total merchandise exports from July 1, 1925, to April 30, 1926, amounted to $4,059,000,000, compared with $4,171,000,000 the year before. This is a decrease of approximately $112,000,000. Imports for the same period are $3,809,000,000, against $3,174,000,000 in 1925, making an increase of $635,000,000 in the ten months. Yet the facts show that there are no 'clouds on the horizon' for our foreign trade. Full details of the April trade are not yet available, but the March figures can be taken for comparison. In that nine months period--July 1, 1925, to March 31, 1926, shipments of wheat and flour were only $121,700,000. The year before they were $339,600,000. Here is a decrease of $218,000,000 in shipments of wheat. The difference for nine months more than accounts for the total merchandise decrease in the ten months. We did not ship more wheat, because we did not have it to sell. But now we have the prospect of a good wheat crop, and unless Canada and other surplus countries have two unusual crops in succession, our exports of wheat must again be large. Even now the prospect is that there will be a brisk demand for winter wheat for early export movement. Exports of raw cotton were far below those of a year ago in value. To the end of March the total was $789,800,000, against $930,600,000 in 1925. Therefore cotton and wheat together in nine months decreased $360,000,000 in comparison with the exports of the year before. Yet we find that the total decrease of all merchandise exports for ten months is only $112,000,000. It is a fair inference, therefore, that industry has been making gains....."

Idaho Farm Prosperity The Idaho Farmer for May 6 says: "Farm prosperity in southern Idaho is calling more people into the State. More than 75 farms in the country around Rupert and Paul are reported to be sold to men from eastern and western States."

Irrigated Land Potatoes More than eight millions bushels of white potatoes, valued at $8,711,000, were grown last year on the Federal irrigation projects, according to a statement issued recently by the Department of the Interior. It shows that although the 33,170 acres cropped to potatoes on these

projects in 1925 was 4,500 acres less than the area in the preceding year, the yield in 1925 was more than 1,320,000 bushels greater and the value more than $5,000,000 greater than in the preceding year. The value of the crop per acre amounted to $90.02 in 1924 and was nearly trebled in 1925, amounting to $262.61 per acre. Projects producing more than a million bushels of potatoes in 1925 were the Uncompahgre, Col.; the Boise, Idaho; the Minidoka, Idaho; the North Platte, Neb.-Wyo., and the Yakima, Wash. The last named led all the others with a production of 2,411,870 bushels from 8,383 acres, valued at $3,135,431, or nearly $375 an acre. Returns of more than a million dollars for this crop in 1925 were also received by the water users on the Minidoka and North Platte projects. (Press, May 15.)

Seed Selection An editorial in The Wall Street Journal for May 14 says: "Careful, intelligent seed selection will both increase the farmer's revenue and reduce his overhead. Recently The Wall Street Journal made this statement, and immediately it was challenged by a western reader. But now comes the president of the Atlantic Cotton Association who, in an address before the convention in Charleston this week, strongly confirms the position taken in this column....Of course, the president of the Atlantic Cotton Association was talking about cotton....Greenville County, in South Carolina, he said, produces an average of 40,000 bales of cotton a year, very little of which was used in the local mills. Now as everyone knows, this is about the center of the cotton mill district of the South. Last year, he said, the mills of the Greenville section, which did not buy the local cotton, brought 200,000 bales, or five times the Greenville crop, from Texas. The only reason these mills sent to Texas for their cotton was because they had to do it to get the staple they wanted. The fact that the freight from Dallas to Greenville is $7.50 a bale did not deter them. It is probable also that they paid a premium over ordinary short-staple cotton. The freight alone on the Greenville purchases would be about $1,500,000. This, plus a premium for long-staple cotton, makes a strong argument for well selected seed. There is another thought for the man who has always been content to produce inferior short-staple cotton. This is the matter of foreign competition. The deadliest competition is likely to be in short-staple cotton, which India, China and some other countries can raise far cheaper than ourselves. Our method of meeting such competition must be by improving the quality. Experts say that all over the cotton belts upland cotton can be raised of more than one inch in length. There is, they say, neither agricultural nor economic reason to interfere with the production of this longer staple cotton. In the circumstances, it seems patent suicide for the farmers to continue planting gin-run seed to produce inferior cotton, when by intelligent seed selection they can improve the quality and sell at a higher price."

Sterling Exchange The press of May 16 reports that sterling exchange went above par in New York May 15 for the first time since Dec. 19, 1914, marking the culmination of years of progress of Great Britain in overcoming the devastation caused by the World War. The sterling cable rate opened at $4.86¾ and after a day of gold buying closed at $4.86 7/8. The dollar parity of the pound sterling is $4.8665. The closing rate of yesterday represented a gain of 5-16 of a cent over Friday's final quotation and a gain of about 2 cents from the low point reached during the British general strike week before last. The settlement of the British strike and the developments that have followed were responsible for the buying of sterling which pushed the rate over par.

Tuberculosis Eradication Fund

An editorial in Indiana Farmer's Guide for May 15 says: "Dispatches from Washington indicate that the House of Representatives decided that $6,000,000 was too much of an appropriation for the eradication of tuberculosis in the bovine stocks of the country, and they favored cutting it to barely over $4,000,000. It is hard to understand how any Congressman can take this attitude in the face of the fact that the livestock interests of the country have literally billions of dollars invested in their herds, flocks and studs, and that tuberculosis does untold damage to the cattle, hog and poultry industries each year. The Bureau of Animal Industry has always been handicapped by a shortage of funds, and the results attained represent a remarkable achievement when we consider the disadvantages under which the work has been done. As a matter of fact, an appropriation at the present time of double the amount asked would not be too much, considering the importance of the work involved. It is incomprehensible to us why this policy of mistaken economy should be followed in this case."

## Section 3
## MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

May 17: Florida Spaulding Rose potatoes $10.50-$11 per barrel in city markets; $9 f.o.b. Hastings. Maine sacked Green Mountains $3.50-$4.35 per 100 pounds in eastern cities; bulk stock $3.45-$3.60 f.o.b. Presque Isle. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites on the Chicago carlot market $3.15-$3.35 and sold at $2.75 f.o.b. Waupaca. Texas Yellow Bermuda onions $1.75-$2.25 per crate in consuming centers; mostly $1.25 f.o.b. Laredo. South Carolina pointed type cabbage $2.25-$2.75 per barrel crate in the East. North Carolina and Virginia strawberries various varieties 20-30¢ quart basis in eastern markets. North Carolina Klondikes $6.50-$8 per 32-quart crate f.o.b. Chadbourn.

Chicago quotations as of May 17: Hogs, top, $14.60, bulk of sales $13.40 to $14.20. Beef steers choice $9.75 to $10.50, good $9.25 to $9.90, medium $8.30 to $9.50, common $7 to $8.30. Heifers, good and choice $7.25 to $10, common and medium $6 to $8.50. Cows, good and choice, $6.35 to $7.60, common and medium $5.50 to $6.35, canner and cutter $4.35 to $5.50. Vealers, medium to choice, $9.25 to $13, heavy calves, medium to choice, $6.50 to $8.50. Stocker and feeder steers common to choice, $6.75 to $9. Fat lambs medium to choice, $12.75 to $15.25, yearling wethers, medium to choice, $10.50 to $13.75, fat ewes, common to choice, $4.50 to $8.

Closing prices on 92 score butter: New York 42¢; Chicago 39¾¢; Philadelphia 42¢; Boston 41½¢.

Closing prices at Wisconsin primary cheese markets May 15: Twins 19¢; Single Daisies 19¼¢; Double Daisies 18¾¢; Longhorns 19½¢; Square Prints 20¢.

Grain prices quoted May 17: No.1 dark northern Kansas City $1.56-$1.63. No.2 red winter Kansas City $1.59. No.2 hard winter Chicago $1.67; Kansas City $1.57 1/2. No.3 mixed corn Minneapolis 61 1/2¢; Kansas City 68 1/2¢. No.3 mixed corn Chicago 65 3/4¢. No.2 yellow corn Chicago 72 3/4¢. No.3 yellow corn Chicago 69-72¢; Minneapolis 64 1/2¢; Kansas City 70 1/2¢. No.3 white corn Kansas City 70 1/2¢; No.4 white corn Chicago 71¢. No.3 white oats Chicago 41 3/4¢; Minneapolis 38 1/4¢; Kansas City 41 3/4¢.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets declined 16 points, closing 17.76¢ per lb. New York July future contracts declined 13 points, closing at 18.19¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

Industrials and Railroads

| Average closing price | May 17, | May 15, | May 16, 1925 |
|---|---|---|---|
| 20 Industrials | 137.97 | 138.02 | 126.50 |
| 20 R.R.stocks | 106.25 | 106.25 | 97.25 |

(Wall St. Jour., May 18.)

- - -

# DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XXI, No. 42 Section 1 May 19, 1926.

FARM RELIEF LEGISLATION The Associated Press to-day reports: "House consideration of the Haugen farm relief bill for amendment neared completion yesterday, with the most controverted sections approved, including the provision for an equalization fee on the sales of basic crops. Without a record vote, the House rejected a motion by Representative Newton to strike out the clause authorizing the equalization fee to raise funds for stabilizing prices during seasons of surplus. The House agreed, however, to an amendment by Representative Jones, of Texas, to require the proposed Federal Farm Board to advertise for forty days its intention to levy the fee, which could not be assessed if a majority of the farm organizations opposed it. The fee would be authorized immediately on wheat, corn, cattle, hogs and butter, and after two years could be placed on cotton.... With the House taking up other business to-day, farm relief will be resumed Thursday. A vote on the three pending bills is expected before the end of the week...."

---

DUTCH TO CONFER ON BULB BAN An Associated Press dispatch from The Hague to-day says: "The Dutch Government intends to reopen negotiations with Washington on the subject of American duties on plants and bulbs, Minister of Agriculture Kan said yesterday in the Chamber. Dutch bulbs and plants are not diseased, the Minister contended, but America is excluding them because they are how being cultivated in the United States. He added that there was no ground for calling an international conference on the matter as long as the conversations with the United States continue. Foreign Minister van Karnepeek said that there were no differences with the United States on the matter suitable for submission to arbitration."

---

COTTON MEN TO CHANGE RULES Members of the New York Cotton Exchange, divided over amendments which have been proposed in the constitution, have decided to ballot on Friday to determine the question by a vote of all the members of the Exchange. A two-thirds vote of the members will be necessary. The main feature of the change is a rule which would limit members of the Exchange to a position of more than 250,000 bales of cotton in any one month. (Press, May 19.)

---

WHEAT PRICES IN EUROPE A Vienna dispatch to the press of May 17 says: "Wheat prices have risen considerably in Central European markets, particularly in Hungary. The cause assigned was somewhat more unfavorable crop reports. The Neue Freie Presse states that higher wheat prices in all Central European countries have been made logical through the great diminution in Continental stocks of grain."

---

MICHELIN TO PLANT RUBBER A tract of 120,000 acres has been bought in the rubber belt of Cochin-China by the French Michelin Company, European manufacturers of pneumatic tires, with the intention of placing this area under rubber cultivation within the next two years. (Press, May 19.)

---

Section 2

Agricultural Costs

An editorial in The Washington Post for May 18 says: "Producers of cottonseed oil, peanut oil and soya bean oil propose to make a test of the question whether agricultural costs shall be included in the total cost of production of a domestic commodity as compared with a similar and competitive commodity imported from a foreign country. Probably they will be joined by the American producers of cane and beet sugar. This is an important point, since difference in cost of production here and abroad is supposed to be the true measure of an adequate protective tariff. The director of the bureau of markets in Georgia petitioned the Tariff Commission to include agricultural costs, but the commission denied the petition until all parties interested might be heard. This hearing will take place May 25 next. Thus far the commission in all its investigations regarding vegetable oils, as well as in the case of sugar, has taken the cost of the raw material as equivalent to its cost as a factor in determining cost of production. The commission says: 'A final ruling upon the petition is accordingly postponed until the public hearing, and the questions hereby raised will be regarded as open for discussion at that time.' It appears that the opposing forces are the soap manufacturers on the one hand and the vegetable oil producers on the other. The former want cheap raw material, while the latter contend that the oils they produce are their finished products and should be protected reasonably. The oil producers are opposing any reduction of the duty on vegetable oils. This is an illustration of the impossibility of fairly determining just what are 'raw materials.' Are there any such things as 'raw materials,' except the trees in the forest and the ores in the mines?"

Agricultural Relief Legislation

An editorial in Pennsylvania Farmer for May 15 says: "Again Congress is engaged in a struggle over legislation intended to relieve the inequalities between agriculture and industry. Again the Corn Belt farmers and the city press are arranged on opposite sides of the question. In the main, eastern farmers are not taking sides on the question, partly because they are not directly interested in the particular bills, and partly because they are more or less influenced by the city papers they read. It is a pity that both sides can not sit down together and talk the matter over in an unselfish spirit and try to arrive at a solution of the problem. That there is a problem can not be denied. Neither can it be denied that it will ultimately affect all lines of business. Any industry so big and so essential as that of agriculture can not remain continually on a financial basis below that of other business without affecting all sooner or later. The wealth and energy devoted to producing the Nation's food and raw material must be recompensed equally with other lines of business."

Bread Wheat or Durum

An editorial in Farmstead, Stock and Home for May 15 says: "According to intentions to plant, spring wheat farmers will decrease their acreage of bread wheat about 8% and increase that of durum 20%, notwithstanding the fact that durum sells at a material discount. The men close to the ground necessarily know their business best. Experience has evidently shown that yields of durum, on the average, offset the price difference. Some time a point will be reached where the expansion of durum acreage and reduction in bread wheat will make a price differential that will offset the surer and more abundant yield of durum. The usual way to determine the danger line is to keep skating closer to it. Some time a nice cold bath will result, but we hope it will not be next fall."

Child Workers in Tobacco Children under 16 years of age play an important part in the production of tobacco in the United States, two of the most tedious and disagreeable operations in its cultivation, suckering and worming, being considered in some tobacco growing areas distinctly children's work, according to a report made public May 18 by the Children's Bureau of the United States Department of Labor. In the typical districts chosen for the study, (Parts of Shelby and Christian Counties in Kentucky; Florence County, S.C., Halifax Co., Va., Hartford Co., Conn., and Hampshire Co., Mass.) 2,278 child workers were found and interviewed, 563 in Kentucky, 606 in South Carolina and Virginia, and 1,109 in the Connecticut Valley. Nearly one-half of these children in the South and more than one-third in New England were under 12 years, and about one-fifth in the South and more than one-tenth in the Connecticut Valley were under 10 years of age. About one-third of the children included in the study were girls. Negroes constituted about one-third of the child workers in Kentucky, and about one-fourth of those in South Carolina and Virginia. In the Connecticut Valley almost all were white, but of foreign parentage.

Cotton Crop and Market An editorial in The Wall Street Journal for May 18 says: "From the Census Bureau report domestic consumption of cotton in April was 575,799 bales against 634,593 in March and 596,541 a year ago. The import of these statistics would be bearish. To a considerable extent this feature is now being offset by weather conditions which at present are unsatisfactory. In the circumstances it can not yet be said prices are at a stabilized point. There are many months in which consumption was smaller than that of last April. It is a fact also that in April, 1923, consumption was 97,000 bales less than this year. But there is no real significance in such comparisons, for the reason that the statistics show that cotton consumption for this season reached its high mark in March. There is nothing in the outlook for the coming months to indicate material change. In the aggregate the domestic consumption of cotton in the past nine months of the season was large, but manufacturers complain of poor demand for goods. Notwithstanding the lower price of cotton compared with a year ago the margin between cotton and yarn of finished goods is small. Why should mills in such circumstances continue to produce? The answer is that they will not. Some of the southern mills have already begun reduction. It is obvious that a well managed mill working to capacity can produce cheaper than when running at a lower output with the same overhead charges....It is probable also that the world consumption of American cotton will ultimately turn out to be less than what was assumed earlier in the season. The question of supply is as important as the demand, and what the new supply will be is even more uncertain than the future demand. At present the outlook promises no large crop. There is a huge acreage but nowhere is the weather favorable. A continuation of the present state of the weather would be a price strengthening factor while an improving crop outlook would have the opposite effect. Uncertainty marks the course at present."

Cotton Freight Rates An Austin, Tex., dispatch to the press of May 18 says: "Further information concerning the fight which the several cotton cooperative associations of the South are to wage before the Interstate Commerce Commission for a reduction of freight rates on cotton has been received by the State Railroad Commission. The Texas Farm Bureau Cotton Association is preparing a complaint which it will file with the commission about May 20, asking that a 20 per cent reduction be made in cotton rates, according to

C.K.Bullard, general counsel for the association. It is asserted that 300,000 cotton growers belong to cooperative marketing associations. It is stated that the complaint which the Texas association is to file will be followed by similar complaints from cotton cooperatives in nine other States of the South and Southwest. They are the result of several years' study by organized cotton farmers of the freight-rate burden now borne by them, Mr. Bullard explained. The petitions doubtless will be consolidated by the Interstate Commerce Commission under the name of the American Cotton Growers' Exchange, a central body representing the affiliated State organizations."

Farm School Conference

An editorial in Commercial West for May 15 says: "There will be an National Farm School Conference held in New York the first week of June. Many learned professors from agricultural colleges, numerous friends of the farmer, such as Senator Capper, Senator Wadsworth and ex-Governor Lowden of Illinois, will be in attendance. This will be a real back-to-the farm convention, and the city youth, according to part of the program, will be urged to enter farming as a vocation. There are others quite well informed who contend that farmers are too plentiful now. In fact there is over-production, low prices and many other things to complain about. One thing which is of more than ordinary importance is the teaching of the American farmer to produce at less cost. New farming areas are being cultivated in foreign lands, and many of the countries which have in years past been heavy patrons of the American grain growers are raising their own grains. Another thing that must be considered is that each farm hand can produce more now by up-to-date methods than could be produced by three men a few years ago....Farm production will increase as economic conditions demand. It can not be forced. To encourage people to leave the cities to enter the big field of agriculture seems unwise especially if they are not practical, experienced farmers."

London Wool Auctions

A London dispatch to the press of May 18 states that the wool auctions, which were postponed on account of the general strike, will be resumed on June 10.

Poultry Business

A.M.Michener is the author of an extensive article entitled "Putting the Poultry Industry on a Business Basis," in Commerce Monthly (New York) for May. He says in part: "Improved methods of production and merchandising are bringing the poultry industry into a new relationship with the business world. This development has added significance in the light of an annual output valued at close to a billion dollars. Probably more widely engaged in than any other farm enterprise, the raising of poultry is of more diredt concern to the consumer than are most other farm activities. The buying of eggs all the way from country storekeeper to the city housewife has long been notorious as a gamble. This situation is being changed. The importance of reliable quality is coming more and more to be recognized by producers, who are introducing into this phase of agriculture the standardization of product long practiced in manufacturing lines. With the establishment of the basis for a standard product have come corresponding changes in methods of buying and selling. The advantage of this change to producers is being felt. The process of development is of necessity slow but it is unmistakable. Together with the more nearly constant year-round supply of eggs provided by means of modern storage facilities, and some adjustment of seasonal production, it is tending to stabilize the market, to reduce the margin between the price to producers and the price to consumers, and to increase consumption. Moreover, the

allowance of premiums for high-grade eggs makes it possible for producers to realize directly upon quality and furnishes incentive for improvement of output. Poultry meat and eggs both enjoy a growing popularity, but the trade in meat is not susceptible to the same kind of marketing development as that in eggs."

Section 3

MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products May 18: Florida Spaulding Rose Potatoes $10.50-$11 per barrel in leading markets, top of $11.25 in New York City. Louisiana and Texas sacked Bliss Triumphs $6.50-$7 per 100 pounds in midwestern cities. Northern sacked Round Whites $2.75-$3.10 on the Chicago carlot market; $2.50-$2.75 f.o.b. Waupaca. Texas Yellow Bermuda onions closed at $1.75-$2.40 per crate in consuming centers. So. Carolina pointed type cabbage $2.25-$2.75 per barrel crate in eastern cities. Various varieties of strawberries from Virginia 20¢-30¢ quart basis in the East. Arkansas and Tennessee Klondikes $6-$6.75 per 24-quart crate in terminal markets; $5-$5.50 f.o.b. Judsonia, Ark.

Chicago quotations as of May 18: Hogs, top, $14.60, bulk of sales $13.40 to $14.10. Beef steers choice $9.65 to $10.40, good $9.25 to $9.85, medium $8.30 to $9.50, common $7 to $8.30. Heifers, good and choice, $7.25 to $10, medium and common $6 to $8.50. Cows, good and choice $6.35 to $7.60, common and medium $5.40 to $6.35, canner and cutter $4.25 to $5.40. Vealers, medium to choice, $10 to $14, heavy calves, medium to choice, $6.75 to $9. Fat lambs, light and handyweight, medium to choice, $13 to $15.50, yearling wethers, medium to choice, $10.50 to $14.25, fat ewes, common to choice, $4.75 to $8.25.

Grain prices quoted May 18: No.1 dark northern Minneapolis $1.56-$1.63. No.2 red winter Kansas City $1.56 1/2. No.2 hard winter Chicago $1.64 1/2; Kansas City $1.53. No.3 mixed corn Minneapolis 62¢; Kansas City 68 1/2¢. No.5 mixed corn Chicago 65¢. No.2 yellow corn Chicago 70 1/2¢. No.3 yellow corn Chicago 68 1/2¢; Minneapolis 65 1/2¢; Kansas City 70 1/4¢. No.3 white corn Chicago 73 1/4¢; Kansas City 69¢; No.3 white oats Chicago 41 1/2¢; Minneapolis 38¢; Kansas City 41 3/4¢.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets advanced 1 point, closing at 17.77¢ per lb. New York July future contracts declined 2 points, closing at 18.17¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Industrials and Railroads | Average closing price | May 18, | May 17, | May 18, 1925 |
| | 20 Industrials | 137.53 | 137.97 | 127.09 |
| | 20 R.R. stocks | 106.45 | 106.25 | 97.50 |

(Wall St. Jour., May 19.)

# DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XXI, No. 43 Section 1 May 20, 1926.

FARM RELIEF LEGISLATION The Associated Press to-day reports: "With rumors of a compromise persisting, consideration of the farm-relief resolutions will be resumed after a day devoted to other business. Final votes on the Haugen price stabilization bill, the Tincher credit measure and the Curtis-Aswell commodity marketing proposal, however, are unlikely before Friday or Saturday. Chairman Haugen, of the agriculture committee, predicted that the House would finish reading his bill for amendment to-day and be in position to take up the other measures as substitutes. Under the rules, the Haugen bill can not be brought up for passage until there has been opportunity to offer the other two measures. Votes on the substitutes will come first. Reports of a compromise between the Tincher and Aswell forces are not denied by the sponsors of these bills, though they insist there is nothing definite to announce as to possible procedure....."

An editorial on the farm relief bills in The Washington Post to-day says: "....Some members of the House believe the equalization fee to be paid by the growers of basic commodities is nothing but a self-imposed tax in order to get back a subsidy or bonus from the Government. It is likened to lifting one's self by the boot straps. Still others believe that the scheme will not stand the test of the courts...."

---

OTHER LEGISLATION The Secretary of Agriculture would be directed to establish game sanctuaries in national parks, under the Robinson bill, reported yesterday by the Senate agricultural committee.

The Senate agricultural committee also favorably reported the Fess bill, to authorize appropriation of $30,000 for the establishment of forestry experimental stations at sites to be selected by the Secretary of Agriculture in the Ohio and Mississippi Valleys. The stations would be operated in cooperation with State college and private agencies.

The Senate agricultural committee, yesterday favorably reported a bill to authorize an appropriation of $200,000 for the establishment of a Federal dairying and livestock experimental station at Mandan, N.D. (Press, May 20.)

The press to-day reports that the Government employees' bill, passed by the House after a reduction in the scale of payments, was amended by the Senate civil service committee yesterday to make the payments more liberal. As reviewed in the House at the instance of the White House, the bill would grant a maximum retirement annuity of $1,000. The Senate committee made it $1,200, to conform with a scale of pay proposed by Senator Stanfield.

---

NEW YORK MILK SITUATION The New York Times of May 19 states that developments in the milk graft and alleged milk price-fixing situation May 18 included the appointment by Dr. Louis I. Harris, Health Commissioner, of two advisory committees and the announcement that he would soon add a third committee to aid him in his efforts to obtain a "dispassionate" view of the situation.

---

Section 2

Agriculture in New York

An editorial in The New York Times for May 19 says: "Enthusiasts for the open spaces where men are men--and, furthermore, crops are crops--may be surprised to learn that in agriculture New York, reputedly effete, rivals the States of the Corn Belt, and in some respects surpasses them. They should be grieved to learn that, though tilling the soil in close proximity to Wall Street, the farmers of this State excel especially in economic sobriety and integrity. The facts are presented by the American Agriculturist and give evidence of nice discrimination. Figures for income 'represent cash received.' Thus hay consumed in the barn does not appear as income except as derived from milk and butter. 'In the Middle West, where corn is the major crop, it is usually entered twice--once as corn and again as livestock.' So says the Brookville Economic Service, which dug out and vouches for the statistics. In the value of its hay crop, $21,000,000, New York leads all other States, California being distinctly second. In dairy products it is a close second to Wisconsin and well ahead of Illinois. In fruits and vegetables combined it is a rather bad second to California, but ahead of Florida. In the apple crop it is second to Washington, but well ahead of California. The value of its dairy products is $178,000,000 and of its combined fruits and vegetables $88,000,000--these being its leading crops. In potatoes ($22,000,000) it is second to Maine. In cattle for slaughter it ranks behind nine States of the Corn Belt, but even so it is ahead of Wisconsin, its rival in dairy products. All this gains significance from the fact that in number of farms New York ranks fourth. The farm acreage does not appear, but is relatively low. In farm population it ranks ninth. Yet in 'total available farm cash income' New York ranks sixth, preceding the great Corn Belt States of Nebraska, Missouri, Wisconsin and Indiana...."

Automobile as Economic Factor

An editorial in Scientific American for June says: "Surely it is not stretching a point too far to say that the automobile is the greatest economical factor in modern American life. If you doubt it, we ask you to remember that the automobile bill of the American people is over 14 billion dollars a year--at least, so says a report by the Bureau of Industrial Technology; and they surely ought to know. Our annual investment in automobiles is greater than the annual value of farm crops and over twice the annual investment in new buildings; hence, the automotive industry has risen to the position of the leading industry of the United States. This startling fact should not surprise us when we learn that the last annual registration of automobiles was about 20 millions; that the average automobile owner spends over $700 a year on his car; and that if each man, woman and child in the country were helping to pay the bill (and by the way, they are doing so indirectly) the annual expenditure per capita would be $117. Not only is the industry stupendous in itself but its effects on other industries is in proportion. In road building, for example, where the program now in the course of execution calls for the expenditure of about one billion dollars a year, and in the upbuilding of suburban communities where the new construction, in the case of many cities, is larger than that in the urban district itself."

Blossom Festivals

A Chicago dispatch to the press of May 19 says: "Significant of the change in American agriculture from the staple crops of our fathers, and of the switch in the American diet toward fresh products, which has had such a marked effect on various classes of railway traffic, was the blossom festival held in the Michigan fruit belt May 18. Festivals of

this sort even yet appear a bit exotic in the sober-minded Middle West. They harmonize perfectly with California, of course....But here along the lakes, with a North European climate, the riot of beauty and blossom with which the Michigan fruit and vine year is ushered in is eloquent of chang in mental attitude following change in agriculture. More than 15,000 out-of-town visitors packed the little cities of Benton Harbor and St. Joseph to view the parade that climaxed Blossom Week--a gaily-bedecke column with eight bands stretched for four miles. Tonight thousands are dancing in a mammoth curbstone hop. The inventors of artificial refrigeration and the packers who pioneered the refrigerator car to send their chilled meat to the Atlantic seaboard markets made all this possible, and they, doubtless, would be astounded if they could see the outcome of their efforts. Railroads are already getting ready to handle a great fruit crop. Advance reports indicate that shipments of fresh fruits and vegetables this year will exceed the record movement of 1925...."

Florida Freight Embargo Lifted

The press of May 18 states that due to the recent improvements in the railroad transportation situation in Florida, in large part the result of the active cooperation between the railroads and the public through the Florida division of the Southeast Shippers' Regional Advisory Board, the car service division of the American Railway Association announces the lifting of the State-wide embargo on freight shipments into that State, which has been in effect there since October 29, 1925.

Fruit Utilization

An editorial in The Michigan Farmer for May 8 says: "About a year ago we commented on the remark of a prominent hotel man before the national convention of hotel men in California, that pies were to be taken from his bill of fare because they were ruinous to the digestion. He believed, from a business standpoint, it would be wise to taboo pies, as people would eat more of other foods with healthy than with crippled digestions. This year, at the State convention of canners, a pie expert said that the consumption of pies would be doubled in five years, and that this increase would benefit the Michigan fruit grower. This leaves us considerably mixed up on the pie situation. We are for anything that will benefit the Michigan fruit grower, but at the same time we would like to see the national digestion protected, as digestion is one of the most important factors in the welfare of a people....We are strong for the Michigan fruit grower. So, we hope one of two things will happen. We wish that some dietetic expert will prove that pie helps the digestion; that would greatly relieve our minds. Or better yet, we hope that the Michigan fruit grower will become so proficient that one would not want to degrade Michigan fruit by hiding it between two crusts."

Game Refuge Bill

An editorial on the Migratory Game Refuge Bill, in The New York Times of May 19, says:"...The project is an old one, though it now appears in a new form. Its purpose, stated briefly, is to enable the Federal Government to acquire suitable marshlands to be used as refuges for migratory game, and at the same time to set aside certain of these lands as public shooting grounds before the last remaining areas are bought up by private clubs. The necessity of creating more refuges for water-fowl along the route of their migration is clear. But about the shooting grounds there has been some confusion. Opposition has been threefold--that the shooting grounds nullify the value of the sanctuaries; that it is not within the rights or duties of the Federal Government to undertake such work; and that the Federal license of one dollar to be required of

all those hunting migratory game not on their own land is an unjust tax and implies the creation of a large bureaucracy of game wardens. The first objection is easily met by proper apportionment of the lands and by suitable regulations of their use by hunters. To the arguments of the defenders of States' rights who object to Federal interference in game protection the effective answer is made that under the existing migratory bird treaty with Canada, regulating among other things the maximum daily bag limits, the Federal Government has already established the principle that the control of migratory game is, in fact, an interstate problem. In so far as the Federal license is concerned, the objectors usually overlook the fact that one of the principal purposes of this fee is to provide funds for the purchase of land for game refuges and shooting grounds without resorting to taxation of non-hunters for this purpose....The purpose of the present bill is to strengthen the existing laws protecting the Nation's water-fowl and at the same time to save for the hunters who do not belong to clubs owning large shooting preserves the remaining grounds suitable for hunting wild fowl."

Grain Rates The press of May 18 states that proposed readjustment of rates on grain and grain products from Utah and Idaho to the Southwest, Alabama and Mississippi, has been found not justified by the Interstate Commerce Commission. The new scale would have brought both increases and decreases. The Ogden, Utah, grain exchange and the Texas Industrial Traffic League protested the changes.

Highway Expenditures An editorial in The Wall Street Journal for May 19 says: "It may not be generally realized that this country's annual expenditures on highways and vehicles therefor much exceeds its outlay for railroad facilities. This true whether capital outlay alone be considered, or comparison be made of combined capital and maintenance figures for the respective categories. Exact statistics are lacking, but enough evidence is available to show that the comparison is startlingly one-sided. Federal, State and local expenditures on highways, exclusive of city paving, were so little more than a billion dollars in 1925 that that figure may be taken for convenience. Analysis of the incomplete data obtainable in respect to separation of State and local funds, as between new construction and maintenance, indicates that the latter account absorbed something like $365,000,000, leaving $635,000,000 to represent the funds from all sources for the building of new roads. Capital expenditures of the railroads last year approximated $750,000,000, of which not far from half was devoted to purchase of equipment...Maintenance of railroad way and structures alone absorbed in 1925 $825,000,000 of the revenues of the steam carriers, that is, more than twice the estimated maintenance of public roads. Equipment maintenance called for $1.268,000,000 additional, or a railroad maintenance total of $2,093,000,000. Add to this $750,000,000 of capital outlay and there is roundly $2,850,000,000 to represent the increase and upkeep of the transportation system now a hundred years old. If the billion for highway construction and repair is augmented by last year's bill of $2,900,000,000 for gasoline vehicles to be used in this country and $1,500,000,000 for tires and replacement parts, the corresponding total for the twenty-five year old transport agency is $5,400,000,000. In making any such comparison it must always be remembered that the transportation functions of steam and 'gas' are by no means wholly identical. On the contrary, those of gasoline are, so far at least, more largely complementary than competitive to those of steam. Nevertheless, there is here a new industrial revolution which is all the harder to see because it is going on under our very eyes."

Silk Industry Damage A Tokio dispatch to the press of May 18 states that damage to silk-worm growers estimated at several million yen has been caused by frost nipping young mulberry leaves during an unprecedented cold wave. The damage was heaviest in the prefectures of Gunma Fukushima, Nagano and Sai Tama.

---

Section 3

MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products May 19: Florida Spaulding Rose potatoes $10.50-$11 per barrel in leading markets; $9.50 f.o.b. Hastings. Louisiana and Texas sacked Bliss Triumphs $6-$6.75 per 100 pounds in midwestern cities. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites on the Chicago carlot market $2.75-$3. Texas Yellow Bermuda onions $1.75-$2.25 per crate in consuming centers. South Carolina pointed type cabbage $1.25-$1.50 per 1½ bushel hamper in eastern markets. Alabama, Louisiana and Mississippi stock in the Middle West $2-$2.50 per barrel crate. Tennessee and Arkansas Klondikes strawberries per 24-quart crate, $5-$6.50 in distributing centers; $4.50-$5 f.o.b. Judsonia, Ark.

Chicago quotations as of May 19: Hogs, top, $14.65, bulk of sales $13.50 to $14.30. Beef steers choice $9.65 to $10.40, good $9.25 to $9.90, medium $8.35 to $9.40, common $7 to $8.35. Heifers, good and choice, $7.25 to $10, common and medium $6 to $8.65; cows, good and choice, $6.50 to $7.65, common and medium $5.40 to $6.50, canner and cutter $4.25 to $5.40. Vealers, medium to choice, $10 to $14 heavy calves, medium to choice $6.75 to $9; stocker and feeder steers, common to choice, $6.75 to $9. Fat lambs medium to choice, $13 to $15.50, yearling wethers, medium to choice, $10.50 to $14.25, fat ewes, common to choice $4.75 to $8.25.

Closing prices on 92 score butter: New York 41¢; Chicago 39¾¢; Philadelphia 42¢; Boston 41½¢.

Closing prices at Wisconsin primary cheese markets May 18: Flats 19½¢; Single Daisies 19½¢; Longhorns 19½¢.

Grain prices quoted May 19: No.1 dark northern Minneapolis $1.56 to $1.63. No.2 red winter St.Louis $1.60 1/2; Kansas City $1.56 1/2. No.2 hard winter Chicago $1.66; St.Louis $1.60; Kansas City $1.55 1/2. No.3 mixed corn Minneapolis 61 1/2¢; Kansas City 68 1/2¢. No.4 mixed corn Chicago 65¢. No.2 yellow corn Chicago 72 3/4¢. No.3 yellow corn Minneapolis 64 1/2¢; St.Louis 71 1/2¢; Kansas City 69 3/4¢. No.3 white corn Kansas City 69 1/4¢. No.3 white oats Chicago 41 3/4¢; Minneapolis 37¢; Kansas City 41 3/4¢; No.2 white oats St.Louis 42 1/4¢.

Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets advanced 5 points, closing at 17.82¢ per lb. New York July future contracts advanced 7 points, closing at 18.24¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

Industrials and Railroads

| Average closing price | May 19, | May 18, | May 19, 1925 |
|---|---|---|---|
| 20 Industrials | 137.16 | 137.53 | 128.38 |
| 20 R.R. stocks | 106.42 | 106.45 | 97.93 |

(Wall St. Jour., May 20.)

---

- - -

# DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XXI, No. 44 Section 1 May 21, 1926.

FARM RELIEF LEGISLATION The Associated Press to-day reports: "...The House late yesterday concluded reading of the Haugen farm relief bill for amendment. Immediately the Tincher credit measure was offered as a substitute, and later the Curtis-Aswell commodity marketing bill was brought before the House as a substitute for the Tincher proposal. This placed all three of the farm bills reported by the agriculture committee formally before the House and it adjourned until to-day when reading of the Aswell measure with amendments in order will begin."

---

RETIREMENT LEGISLATION The Senate yesterday passed the Stanfield retirement bill without a record vote fixing the maximum annuity at $1,200 instead of $1,000, as provided in the House bill. The bill now goes to conference. The employees would contribute four per cent, instead of the two and a half per cent which they now contribute, and the measure also carries lowered optional retirement age limits. (Press, May 21.)

---

BOY CATTLE JUDGES TO GO ABROAD The Baltimore Sun to-day says: "For the third time in the last five years Maryland will be represented at the international dairy cattle judging contest at the show of the British Royal Agricultural Society to be held July 14 at Reading, England. An announcement to this effect has been made by Dr. T. B. Symons, Director of the Maryland University Extension Service. The State will be represented by the champion dairy cattle judging team which took first honors at the Timonium State fair last September and again at the National Dairy Show at Indianapolis last month...."

---

LEGGE ON CORN OUTLOOK A Chicago dispatch to the press to-day says: "The possibility of a corn crop shortage next fall would produce a more serious situation for the Corn Belt than the unsatisfactory condition last season, Alexander Legge, president of the International Harvester Company, said yesterday. His statement was brought out by reports in Wall Street that the Harvester Company would lose approximately $250,000 on corn exchanged by Iowa farmers for farm implements produced by the company. Mr. Legge said he had not received figures to show how much corn the company had received under its exchange offer with the farmers. The offer expired May 1. 'The Harvester Company is not worrying over the prospect of loss on the corn taken by it in exchange for farm implements,' he said, 'but we are gravely concerned over the possibility of a much more serious loss to corn-belt farmers and necessarily to our business through a shortage in the 1926 crop.'"

---

WOOL MARKET A Boston dispatch to the press to-day states that manufacturers are buying wool on the retail basis instead of at wholesale. They are not anticipating the future, covering only their immediate requirements. It is common talk in Summer Street that, in the face of the approach of the shearing season the wool dealers are expected to take over the country's clip without any support or encouragement from the manufacturers, although the dealers stand ready to grant the usual credit until the distribution of goods becomes a reality.

---

Section 2

Agricultural Relief Legislation

In an editorial on the Tincher bill, The Wall Street Journal for May 20 says: "....Twenty-year unsecured loans for purpose of marketing farm products could have but one meaning. No banker or business man with a grain of sense could be induced to look at such a proposition. Incidentally, there is no need for such a measure. There is any amount of money available for any marketing association to handle staple products in a businesslike way. An instance in point is the Texas Association, which every year borrows from several banks $7,000,000 to $10,000,000 to finance its marketing operations. It is to be assumed that the commission would consist of men of the highest integrity. Yet the bill is so loosely drawn that it presents a wide open door for graft, waste, and loss through political management. A marketing association borrowing money from the commission could then, if it saw fit, buy butter or watermelons and be under no obligation to sell within a seasonal time. That same association, borrowing on unsecured paper, could buy wheat or other products at any price it saw fit and store, disposing of only enough to pay 5 per cent of the loan and interest every year. It might sell the whole lot for a fraction of the purchase price, and in payment make a report and audit to the committee, which in turn is responsible for nothing. There is no doubt that this bill, if enacted into law would do yeoman service in 'disposing of' the surplus, but it would be Treasury surplus entirely."

Branch Banking Bill

Support of a number of the principles embodied in the McFadden-Pepper branch banking bill, as passed by the Senate, is urged in the interest of business in a communication sent to members of both houses of Congress May 19 by John W. O'Leary, president of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States. Five specific propositions, contained in the bill as amended by the Senate, are represented as being constructive measures designed to promote business confidence. These are: the extension of charters of Federal Reserve Banks on an indeterminate basis; authorizing national banks to establish city branches when permitted to State banks; granting indeterminate charters for national banks; authorizing national banks to deal in investment securities; authorizing national banks to make five-year city mortgage loans. The granting of indeterminate charters to Federal Reserve Banks and the granting of permission to national banks to establish city branches are matters of controversy between the House and Senate and will be threshed out in conference. The President of the National Chamber urges particularly that the differences between two Houses be so adjusted as not to endanger the passage of the bill.

Cotton Exchange Amendments

Commerce and Finance for May 19 publishes a lengthy statement on the New York Cotton Exchange amendments by W. L. Clayton. In this Mr. Clayton says: ".....Particular attention was paid to the next to the last paragraph of Secretary Jardine's letter. Mr. Jardine further stated his opinion in a telegram to Edward A. Pierce, reading: 'I have neither expressed approval nor disapproval of specific amendments. Desire to encourage members exchange to take some action which will correct the undesirable conditions that have been generally recognized.' The New York Cotton Exchange received telegrams from the Texas Cotton Association and the Dallas, Houston, Galveston and Fort Worth Cotton Exchanges indorsing the proposals. The Atlantic Cotton Association is against them. The Texas Cotton Association requested the support of the Arkwright Club for the proposals, but President Ward Thoron responded: 'We think it is up to the Exchange to discover some way of functioning more satisfactorily, but not up to us to take the responsibility of telling them how or approving or disapproving of internal regulations of this character.'" The paragraph

in Secretary Jardine's letter referred to is as follows: "The effectiveness of any amendment or of other measures for self-regulation must depend very largely upon the sincerity with which they are observed and enforced. The responsibility for this rests now with the officers and members of your Exchange. It is my conviction that the Exchange may more advantageously regulate its own actings in conformity with the public interest rather than to permit conditions to develop that require governmental regulations."

Cotton Exports A New Orleans dispatch to the press of May 20 states that although it had been feared that the British strike might interfere with cotton exports from this side of the Atlantic it is now evident that the strike did not last long enough to cause any real interference. Exports of cotton from American ports during the past week have again exceeded the corresponding week last year. The total for the season to date has passed the seven million bale mark, although still running 400,000 behind last season's total for the corresponding period.

Cotton for India Importation of American cotton subject to fumigation during the period June 1 to October 31 of this year has been sanctioned by the Government of India, according to a cabled dispatch received at the Department of Commerce, and reported in the press of May 20. The dispatch states that consideration of a future policy with respect to importations of American cotton will be given after May 31, 1927.

Cotton Industry A Boston dispatch to the press of May 18 states that approximately 80 per cent of the cotton-spinning industry of the world running on American cotton is in a more or less unsatisfactory condition and only 20 per cent of it is enjoying reasonably satisfactory business, according to the Merchants' National Bank of Boston. The countries in which cotton trade conditions are unsatisfactory include the United States, England, Germany, Italy, Czecho-Slovakia and Austria. The countries in which cotton trade is good include France, Poland, Hungary, Japan and Canada.

Immigration Laws An editorial in The Journal of Commerce for May 18 says: "We, without a shadow of doubt, would be well advised to be larning from Canada with respect to the proper and wise way to deal with the perennial problem of immigration. We, on the one hand, simply shut our eyes to the whole matter and say in effect: 'We want no foreigners. We can and will do without them. They could serve us no doubt in numerous ways, but they bring hard problems with them and perhaps since we can not be troubled with solving such problems we will cut the Gordian knot by prohibiting their entry.' Canada, on the other hand, knows full well that even more than the United States she needs additions to her labor supply. She knows, too, from observation beyond her southern border, if in no other way, that large influxes of foreign peoples certainly bring problems of important dimensions. She, however, has the sense to see that such problems are not insuperable and the courage to make a consistent attempt to solve them. Can we learn nothing from Canada in this respect?"

New York Milk Situation A report from Atlantic City May 20 says: "Dr. Louis T. Harris, Health Commissioner of New York City, addressing the American Public Health Association, meeting at Atlantic City, May 19, in connection with the American Health Congress, proposed drastic changes in the methods of handling milk in New York City. Declaring that milk was a public utility, Doctor Harris advocated the formation of a municipal board 'with czaristic powers' to eliminate the evils of the industry and insure to the public a

pure supply at a reasonable cost. He suggested that all milk entering New York City should be pasteurized under municipal auspices, possibly at one large plant or several plants, whether owned by the city or not...."

Oregon Hop Market — A Portland, Ore., dispatch to the press of May 20 states that some recent sales of last year's crop of Oregon hops have been made at 30 cents a pound. It is estimated that only about 2,000 bales remain in producers' hands. Spot hops are firm and at the highest point for years. Contracts are firmer and advancing. For one-year options 23 cents is offered; with three to five-year options dealers are offering 21 to 22 cents.

Rural Conditions in Canada — An editorial in The Farmer's Advocate (Ontario) for May 13 says: "To anyone who studies the trend of social, economic and political conditions in this country there must come the conviction that powers and privileges once vested in rural communities are now largely transferred to urban centers. Rural people and rural municipalities once quite self contained are now subservient to the whims, ambitions and policies of the towns and cities that have wrested the scepter of power from the hands of those who failed to realize its value and significance. The last census showed the people of Canada to be about evenly divided between rural and urban, but this proportion is not duplicated in the sentiments expressed in the House of Commons or in the provincial legislatures of this country. In some cases the ridings are so jerrymandered and rural constituencies so barbacled with town and city suburbs that a real expression of rural opinion is impossible to obtain. The rural church looks up to the big city spires, country children go into the towns and cities to obtain even their secondary education, and for entertainment old and young neglect to develop their local talent but hie away to the urban center where firms and corporations sell amusement and pleasure. The whole country is urbanized socially, educationally, economically and politically. Instead of urban and rural interests cooperating for their mutual good, power has been so centered in the hands of capitalists and labor unions that agriculture as an industry and the country as a place of abode for one-half the population are considered on the basis of what they may contribute to the Nation's industrial enterprises and to the well-being of the urban dwellers....The rural viewpoint and rural rights have not been defended with sufficient confidence and vigor, because back of the rural champions there was not the organization or solidarity of opinion that have supported those who spoke for town and city. Only through organization can rural rights be successfully protected and rural institutions made to serve the people who till the soil. The young men and young women active in the young people's movements of the present time will be the most effective workers when they realize the importance of defending rural institutions and regaining for the country a larger share in the councils of this Dominion."

Tariff Reduction — An editorial in The Pacific Dairy Review for May 6 says: "Where tariff reduction on manufactured commodities, especially those most used by the farming classes, was first suggested we thought it would die of its own impotence as a remedy for the agricultural slump, but it seems to be making some headway and has won the support of some of our leading farm papers. We wonder whether the advocates of tariff reduction have given its consequences, if it were to materialize, any real serious consideration. We wonder whether they realize that from our early history American industry has been based on a protective tariff and what it would mean if this foundation were swept from under it. Do they realize that with

our manufacturing industries crippled that consumption of what our farmers raise would be reduced and the purchasing power of three-fourths of our population curtailed? In such a case not only would our surplus production of a few staples, such as wheat and corn, continue to suffer, but it would drag dairy, poultry, fruit, vegetables and other farm products into the same class....."

Section 3

MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products May 20: Florida Spaulding Rose potatoes $10.50-$11 per barrel in leading markets; $9.50 f.o.b. Hastings. Texas and Louisiana sacked Bliss Triumphs $6-$6.50 per 100 pounds. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites $2.75-$2.95 on the Chicago carlot market and $2.25-$2.50 f.o.b. Waupaca. Louisiana and Mississippi cabbage stock $2-$3.25 per barrel crate. South Carolina pointed type $1.25-$1.50 per 1½ bushel hamper. Texas Yellow Bermuda onions $1.75-$2 per crate in consuming centers. Tennessee and Arkansas Klondike strawberries $4.50-$5.75 per 24-quart crate in mid-western cities. Virginia and Maryland berries 15-25¢ quart basis in eastern markets.

Chicago quotations as of May 20: Hog, top $14.80, bulk of sales $13.60 to $14.40. Beef steers choice $9.65 to $10.40, good $9.25 to $10, medium $8.35 to $9.50, common $7 to $8.35. Heifers, good and choice, $7.40 to $10, common and medium $6 to $8.75. Cows, good and choice, $6.50 to $7.65, common and medium $5.35 to $6.50, canner and cutter $4.15 to $5.35. Vealers, medium and choice, $9.50 to $13.75, heavy calves, medium to choice, $6.75 to $8.75. Fat lambs medium to choice, $13 to $15.75, yearling wethers, medium to choice, $10.50 to $14.50, fat ewes, common to choice, $4.75 to $8.25.

Grain prices quoted May 20: No.1 dark northern Minneapolis $1.57-$1.65. No.2 red winter St.Louis $1.62; Kansas City $1.54. No.2 hard winter Chicago $1.68 1/2¢. St. Louis $1.61; Kansas City $1.56. No.3 mixed corn Minneapolis 63 1/2¢. No.3 mixed corn Chicago 68 1/2-71¢; Kansas City 68 3/4¢; No.4 mixed corn Chicago 65 1/2¢. No.2 yellow corn Chicago 73¢. No.3 yellow corn Chicago 71 1/2¢; St.Louis 72 1/2-73¢; Minneapolis 67¢; Kansas City 71¢. No.3 white corn Kansas City 70 1/2¢. No.3 white oats Chicago 41 1/4¢; St. Louis 41 1/2¢; Minneapolis 37 1/2¢; Kansas City 41 1/2¢.

Closing prices on 92 score butter: New York 41¢; Chicago 39 3/4¢; Philadelphia 42¢; Boston 41 1/2¢. Closing prices at Wisconsin primary cheese markets May 19: Single Daisies 19 1/4¢; Longhorns 19 1/2¢; Square Prints 19 1/4¢.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets advanced 1 point, closing at 17.83¢ per lb. New York July future contracts advanced 2 points, closing at 18.26¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

Industrials and Railroads

| Average closing price | May 20, | May 19, | May 20, 1925 |
|---|---|---|---|
| 20 Industrials | 133.66 | 137.16 | 128.68 |
| 20 R.R. stocks | 107.51 | 106.42 | 98.03 |

(Wall St. Jour., May 21.)

- - -

# DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XXI, No. 45 Section 1 May 22, 1926.

HAUGEN BILL KILLED The Associated Press to-day reports: "Farm relief legislation received a setback in the House yesterday with the defeat, 212 to 167, of the Haugen price stabilization bill. This action cleared the calendar of all farm proposals, as the two other bills, the Tincher credit plan and the Curtis-Aswell commodity marketing measure, were withdrawn by their authors. After the adverse vote on the Haugen bill Representative Tilson, the Republican leader, announced that the next move was up to the agriculture committee. Representative Aswell, of Louisiana, ranking Democrat on the committee and coauthor of the Curtis-Aswell proposal, said he would attempt to obtain a favorable report on a compromise measure containing the principal provisions of his and Tincher bills. He had such an amalgamated bill ready for presentation yesterday, but the parliamentary situation prevented its consideration. He predicted that the two measures combined would command sufficient strength to pass....."

---

MILK PROTECTION ASKED The United States prohibits the importation of diseased seeds and animals, but has no prohibition on the importation of insanitary milk and cream, Senator Lenroot told the Senate agriculture committee yesterday in urging his bill to compel imported milk and cream to conform to the same standard applied to American dairies. (Press, May 22.)

---

COTTON MEN REJECT TRADING CHANGES An Associated Press dispatch to-day says: "Proposed amendments to the by-laws of the New York Cotton Exchange, designed to curb undue speculation in cotton, were rejected by a vote of the members yesterday. The most important proposal, which would have restricted the position of a single interest to 250,000 bales of cotton in any one month, failed to obtain the necessary two-thirds approval, although it received 226 affirmative votes to 142 negative. Other amendments, calling for the establishment of a trade investigating committee and broader powers for the business conduct committee were likewise defeated."

---

CANADIAN TARIFFS An Ottawa dispatch to the press to-day states that budget proposals increasing the Canadian customs duty on fresh meats and on bananas coming through the United States have passed the House of Commons in committee stage. To give effect to the Canadian-Australian treaty, the general tariff rate on meats was increased by from 3 to $3\frac{1}{2}$ cents a pound. To give effect to the Canada-West Indies treaty, a duty of 50 cents a bunch on bananas imported through any but Canadian seaports also is imposed.

---

MUSHROOM GROWERS COOPERATE A West Chester, Pa., dispatch to the press to-day states that a certificate of incorporation has been granted the "Mushroom Growers' Cooperative Association of Pennsylvania." The main offices of the corporation will be located at Kennett Square, and for a time at least its business will concern largely the affairs of Chester County mushroom growers.

---

Section 2

Agricultural Education

Dr. Andrew M. Soule, president of the Georgia State College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts, is the author of an extensive article entitled "A New Significance for Agricultural Education," in Manufacturers Record for May 20. He says in part: "A survey of what our graduates are doing has recently been completed. The findings are most illuminating and significant. They set forth more clearly than words can portray the need and opportunity for leadership along the lines under discussion and the fine rewards which will accrue to those who are competently trained to specialize in these fields. The response received to date indicates that the average income of our graduates approximates $2,769 per annum. Letters of inquiry recently sent out also revealed that 80.6 per cent have an income of $2,000 or more and that approximately two-thirds of them are earning $3,000 to $4,000 a year and upward. Quite a number of them are engaged in farming. Several reported net incomes of $5,000 and upward from this source in the exceedingly bad crop-year of 1925. Here we have one of the finest examples on record of what mixing brains with the soil will accomplish. It demonstrates beyond a reasonable doubt the fact that intelligence pays in agriculture as in any other business....Fifty-four and two-tenths per cent of our graduates are teachers. Some one has suggested that we are overemphasizing this profession. We are striving by every means at our command to induce more and more of our men and women to go into this business. Thirty-seven of our graduates are already in charge of rural consolidated high schools. Their knowledge and understanding of farm problems and needs are being carried down into the hearts of 400 or more boys and girls in each institution. They are, therefore, instituting and setting up new activities in the country surrounding their schools. They constitute the center from which new information is being disseminated in a usable form into the homes of the communities in which they are located. They are making it possible for a new type of agricultural practice to be set up and successfully carried out in the localities they serve. We want our teaching graduates to multiply themselves by several hundred. They can do far more effective work in this way than if they were simply working on their individual farms. In addition to the above, there are nearly 200 men and women vocational teachers of agriculture and home economics at work in our high schools, redirecting the thought of boys and girls along acceptable lines as they apply to the professions of agriculture and home making."

Arbor Day

An editorial in Scientific American for June says: "Arbor Day is the American counterpart of an ancient custom. History teaches us that it was the practice among the early peoples to plant sacred groves and memorial trees and lay out shaded academic walks and stately avenues. Arbor Day, however, is of purely American origin and grew out of the conditions peculiar to the great plains of the West which were practically treeless over a large part of their area....The movement thus initiated proved to be healthy and lasting, but its widespread success and its continuity were assured when it was recognized how strongly this movement would appeal to the children of the country. As a school festival, the observance of Arbor Day has spread not only throughout the United States but far beyond its borders. It is now in vogue in all the dependencies of the United States and in Great Britain, Canada, Australia, South Africa, France, Norway, Russia, Japan and China....The work of the schools is only a part of the widespread efforts to repair the damage which has been done to our once magnificent and far-flung forests. One of the most encouraging signs for the future is the growing realization by the lumber interests of the

importance of forest conservation. The National Lumber Manufacturers Association, which is pressing the point of view of the forest industries, recently gave $100,000 to the Yale School of Forestry. On the other hand, although these efforts are encouraging, we must remember that a vast amount of work has yet to be done before the people of the United States and their Government can claim that they have taken hold of this great problem on a scale proportionate to its magnitude."

Cotton Textile Conditions

An editorial in The Wall Street Journal for May 21 says: "There is no need to tell cotton manufacturers that the textile industry is not prospering, for they are painfully aware of that fact. But like a man who knows that he is ill but does not understand why, the cause for the textile depression is not fully understood even within the industry. At the convention of the American cotton manufacturers now being held at Atlanta, the president of the association, W.J.Vereen, seems to have made a correct diagnosis of the situation. In his opening speech he said: 'The supply of merchandise should be equal to the full demand without artificial stimulus or restrictive regulations....The textile industry is suffering simply because it has sought to continue operations in violation of this law.' Official statistics show that in 1923 the production of woven cotton goods over 12 inches in width was 8,264,000,000 square yards. This was 23.3 per cent more yardage than was produced in 1921. Either we were producing too little in 1921 or too much in 1923 to account for this increase of 23.3 per cent in volume. The depression in the industry in 1924 leads to the conclusion that the increase was not warranted by consumptive demand. Our cotton manufacturing industry shows a course of overproduction followed by a period of depression. It seems to gorge the market with cotton goods, and then starves itself while the market is digesting the overproduction. ...Undoubtedly, there are other factors contributing to the depression in the textile industry. But the main one is, as President Vereen says, an output larger than consumptive demand.After the cause of the ailment is once found, it behooves the experts then to seek a remedy. This is one of the most important steps yet before the cotton textile industry."

Electricity and Agriculture

An Atlantic City dispatch to the press of May 21 says: "Stimulus to overcome the struggle of the farmer against increased costs of commodities, but no corresponding increase in prices, rests in the electrification of rural districts by the electric power industry, Guy E. Tripp of New York, chairman of the board of the Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Company, told the convention of the National Electric Light Association May 20. Preceding him was William Allen White, Kansas editor, who said that the demand for electric power in the home and on the farms was a 'concomitant of democracy,' and the man 'objecting to democracy of this sort is biting off his nose to spite his reactionary face.'...Mr. Tripp cited an opinion of Henry Ford as an instance of the conclusions reached by students of the farmer's plight, which emphasized that only by decentralizing of American industries could the farmer be lifted to a plane of profitable livelihood. He found occasion for strong hope in the fact that such decentralization now is proceeding on an increased sacle...."

Farmer Wants

An editorial in Pennsylvania Farmer for May 22 says: "To answer to the oft repeated question, 'What do farmers want?' the Sears Roebuck Agricultural Foundation sent out a questionnaire, and received several thousand answers thereto. Tabulation shows the following: The replies showed that 31.7 per cent thought cooperative marketing was the greatest single need;

14.6 per cent named 'the solution of the marketing problem;' 14.6 per cent named 'the education of farmers, and the application of business methods to the agricultural industry;' five per cent said it was 'the solving of the farm labor problem;' four per cent said it was 'the removal of the inequalities between agriculture and industry;' 4.4 per cent said it was the solving of 'farm credit.' A few scattered opinions gave 'taxes' and 'lower freight rates.' It would be still more interesting to know whether those who answered arrived at their conclusions by actual observation and personal study, or whether they but reflected the opinions of others who have been recommending these things so diligently the past few years."

Food Prices The retail food index issued by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States Department of Labor shows for April 15, 1926, an increase of about one and one-half per cent since March 15, 1926; an increase of nearly eight per cent since April, 1925; and an increase of over sixty-five and one-half per cent since April 15, 1913. The index number (1913 = 100.0) was 150.8 in April, 1925; 159.9 in March, 1926; and 162.4 in April, 1926.

"Mechanized" Agriculture Ontario Farmer for May 15 says: "...What has the application of mechanics done for agriculture? The wheat of North America is a machine-grown wheat; nor without such machine-grown wheat could the industrial populations of the world be fed. Labor saving and time saving devices have increased the effectiveness of human labor in production and have made possible the cultivation of larger areas of land. In proof of this Doctor Riddell (advisory officer of the Dominion Government to the League of Nations) quotes statistics which show that the area for all field crops in Canada has increased from 3,268 acres per 1,000 of the total population in 1890 to 6,050 acres in 1925, and points out that in considering these figures it should be remembered that rural population increased from 3,296,000 in 1891 to 4,433,000 in 1921, and urban population rose from 1,537,000 in 1891 to 4,352,000 in 1921; the latter, of course, makes no direct contribution to agriculture. The application of mechanics in agriculture has, without doubt, worked wonders, so great, so silent, so efficient that they are not fully appreciated by the great mass of our people. They are appreciated, however, by the man on the land. The proper use of machinery, he knows, makes for greater production, as greater production usually, makes for greater per capita returns."

Prices Practically no change in the general level of wholesale prices from March to April is shown by information gathered in representative markets by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States Department of Labor. The bureau's weighted index number, which includes 404 commodities or price series, registered 151.1 for April compared with 151.5 for March, a decrease of only one-fourth of one per cent. Compared with April, 1925, with an index number of 156.2, there was a decrease of 3-1/4 per cent. Farm products and foods averaged slightly higher than in March, due to increases in grains, hay, hogs, sheep and lambs, eggs and potatoes. In all other groups prices were lower than in the month before, ranging from less than 1 per cent in the case of fuels, metals, chemicals and drugs, and housefurnishing goods to 2 per cent in the case of clothing materials.

---

Section 3

Department of Agriculture An editorial in The Breeder's Gazette for May 20 says: "To those needing purebred breeding stock and who are delaying the investment, an incident in the recent Buckland Hall Shorthorn sale holds special import. The Federal Department of Agriculture on that occasion founded a Shorthorn

herd for its Beltsville, Md., farm, buying a bull and 6 females. Federal conservatism is axiomatic. The fact that the purchase is made now reflects a deliberate, meditated conclusion that the time is opportune. With Assistant-Secretary Renick Dunlap and E. W. Sheets, Chief of the Animal Husbandry Division, buying, the public may safely have confidence that the cattle business faces improving prices and conditions. Forty years of Shorthorn experience and a background full of traditions of his famous Renick ancestors, guide Mr. Dunlap in his service to the Government. Added to the many straws which mark the upward trend of livestock values, the founding of the Beltsville herd is an encouraging tip, both to prospective buyers and to present owners of breeding animals. More important in significance even than the fact that the Government chooses this time to buy, is a study of the kind of individuals selected. The seven animals bought were adjudged to be the best in the sale. Their average cost was over twice the average selling price of the other animals sold. The Government can not afford to buy inferior foundation stock. It can not afford to wait long enough to secure results from the poorer, inferior individuals in a breed. It buys the best. By so doing it points the way for beginning breeders, and indorses the well-proved proposition that quality in foundation animals is the greatest assurance of success."

Section 4

MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products May 21: Florida Spaulding Rose potatoes in eastern markets $10.50-$11.50 per barrel; $9.50 f.o.b. Hastings, Louisiana and Alabama sacked Bliss Triumphs $5.75-$6.50 per 100 pounds in the Middle West; $5.25 f.o.b. Mobile, Ala. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites $2.75-$3 on the Chicago carlot market and $2.25-$2.50 f.o.b. Waupaca. Texas Yellow Bermuda onions $1.75-$2. per crate in consuming centers. South Carolina pointed type cabbage $1.25-$1.50 per 1½ bushel hamper in eastern cities. Alabama, Louisiana and Mississippi stock $2-$3 per barrel crate. Tennessee and Arkansas Klondike strawberries $1.75-$2 to $4.50-$6 per 24-quart crate. Virginia and North Carolina various varieties 15-25¢ quart basis in eastern cities.

Chicago Livestock quotations May 21: Hogs, top, $14.75, bulk of sales $13.50 to $14.30. Beef steers choice, $9.75 to $10.40, good $9.25 to $10, medium $8.40 to $9.50, common $7 to $8.50. Heifers, good and choice, $7.40 to $10.10, common and medium $6 to $8.75. Cows, good and choice, $6.50 to $7.65, common and medium $5.35 to $6.50, canner and cutter $4.15 to $5.35. Vealers, medium to choice, $9.50 to $14; heavy calves, medium to choice, $6.75 to $8.75. Stockers and feeders common to choice, $6.75 to $9. Fat lambs medium to choice, $13 to $15.75, yearling wethers, medium to choice, $10.50 to $14.50, fat ewes, common to choice, $4.75 to $8.25.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets unchanged at 17.83¢ per lb. New York July future contracts unchanged at 18.26¢.

Grain prices quoted May 21: No.1 dark northern Minneapolis $1.58-$1.65. No.2 red winter Chicago $1.64 1/2; St.Louis $1.61; Kansas City $1.53. No.2 hard winter Chicago $1.64 1/2; St.Louis $1.58; Kansas City $1.53. No.2 mixed corn Chicago 72 1/4¢. No.3 mixed corn Minneapolis 64¢; Kansas City 69¢. No.2 yellow corn Chicago 73¢. No.3 yellow corn St.Louis 73 1/4¢; Minneapolis 67 1/2¢; Kansas City 71 1/2¢. No.2 white corn Chicago 75 1/2¢; No.3 white corn St.Louis 73 1/4¢; Kansas City 70 1/2¢; No.3 white oats Chicago 41 1/2¢; St.Louis 41 3/4¢; Minneapolis 37 1/2¢; Kansas City 41 1/2¢.

Closing prices on 92 score butter: New York 41 1/2¢; Chicago 40¢; Philadelphia 42 1/4¢; Boston 41 1/2¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

- - -

# DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XXI, No. 46 Section 1 May 24, 1926

AGRICULTURAL LEGISLATION

An Associated Press dispatch to-day says: "The battle over agricultural relief legislation will be shifted to the Senate this week with leaders of the farm groups there seeking to work out some measure in place of the Corn Belt bill which would have a chance of approval by the House. The migratory bird bill will have the right of way to-day, however, and it may be that the army air service bill will be called up ahead of the administration cooperative marketing bill, to which the Corn Belt bill now is attached as a rider. While Senate farm bloc leaders are seeking a way out of the difficulty caused by the House's rejection of the Haugen price stabilization bill, the House agriculture committee will again gather around the board in an effort to find an acceptable substitute relief measure. Farm relief bids fair to occupy much time in the Senate, but a majority of the members are pledged to resist adjournment until such legislation has been acted upon.

An Eau Claire, Wis., dispatch to the press to-day says: "Hope that all farm relief measures pending in Congress would be defeated was expressed yesterday by A. W. Ricker, secretary of the Corn Belt committee, which sponsored the Haugen farm relief measure defeated in the House Friday. He sent a telegram on behalf of the committee to Representative Gilbert Haugen. 'Accept no compromise,' his telegram said. 'Better to have no legislation than fake measures passed, when, as a matter of fact, nothing has been done and nothing intended. Better to allow two more years for organization of farmers followed by a concerted demand on Congress. Hope the Senate and House will now defeat all so-called farm relief legislation, including Secretary Jardine's cooperative marketing bill. We have all the information from the Agricultural Department we desire and do not want to appropriate more public money for information which helps in no way to solve our problem.'"

---

DAIRY RETURNS

Charles W. Holman, secretary of the National Milk Producers Federation, told the Senate agricultural committee May 22 that the return to the farmer on dairy products while slow is slightly higher than that for other crops and "marginal" agriculturalists are gradually concentrating their efforts on dairies. (Press, May 23.)

---

NEW YORK MILK FRAUDS

The New York Times to-day reports: "Indictments against a wholesale cream dealer and against one or more officials, or former officials, of the Department of Health are expected to be returned to-day by the New York County Grand Jury which is investigating the bottleg milk graft scandal. It is believed that these indictments will result in the opening of sources of information which have thus far remained sealed and that, as a consequence, a true bill will be handed up against a Manhattan lawyer. In the opinion of the investigators, this man is, with the exception of Thomas J. Colugher, one-time secretary to Dr. Frank J. Monaghan, former Health Commissioner, the 'most sinister figure' in the milk conspiracy...."

---

Section 2

Agricultural Subsidies

Bankers as practical economists are not ready to subscribe to a Government subsidy for agriculture, Oscar Wells, President of the American Bankers Association, told the Texas Bankers Association Convention at Galveston to-day. He also told of the national association's work in behalf of monetary reform, refuting the popular notion that the bankers had opposed establishment of the Federal Reserve System. He said in part: "You are very much interested in Texas in agriculture. Its problems are very perplexing and the whole economic world is concerned about the manner in which they may be solved. Unfortunately it is not alone an economic question but it has become as well a serious political question. There is hardly a session of Congress that has not before it several plans designed to bring relief to the farmer. It is becoming recognized that there is a lack of balance between the cost necessary to be expended in producing the crop and the proceeds of that crop when it is harvested. The banker with his ideas of soundness and as a practical economist, is not quite ready to subscribe to a plan which includes a subsidy by the Government. He even wonders whether the farmer himself will be benefited if the problem is not allowed to be met through the workings of the law of supply and demand and aided by science and the experiments of the colleges and Department of Agriculture. This is the theory upon which the American Bankers Association has created its agricultural commission. It has employed a man of vast experience in the science of agriculture. He is spending large sums of money in conducting conferences throughout the various States to bring together the agricultural colleges, the farm organizations and the rural banks interested in the better development of agriculture."

Agricultural Subsidy Cost

An editorial in The Wall Street Journal for May 22 says: "An editorial in the May 12 issue of the Chicago Price Current suggests that the proposed farm legislation would necessitate so great an increase in Federal employees that it would be cheaper to pay a subsidy direct to the farmers. The Haugen bill, for instance, deals with cotton, wheat, corn, butter, cattle and swine. The size of the meat business alone is sufficient to raise the question of administration cost. The value of our exports of meat and meat products in each one of the past ten years, it is pointed out, has been in excess of the entire proposed 'revolving' fund. But the Price Current's leading thought is in the detail work this proposed price fixing measure would entail. The pig is taken as a single illustration. Tracing that animal from the farm to the export market, its course is far from direct. Often the drove that any one farmer sells will go to two or more packing houses. From only nine centers in twelve weeks the outbound movement of hogs aggregated 2,297,000 or 35 per cent of the total receipts. A week ago prices at Chicago ranged from $9.75 to $13.50 per 100 pounds at Chicago. Some of the animals died enroute, while others at the packing houses were condemned by the Federal inspectors and brought only tankage prices. The loss in weight through shipping and shrinkage in dressing always varies. Some parts of the carcass are never exported and other parts vary in export movement of from weeks to months. Lard is an important part of pork products. Statistics do not show any fixed relationship between production, consumption and exports...No one seems to have taken into consideration the detail work involved in legislative relief. But these facts show an enormous requirement connected with just one of the basic commodities."

Beet Sugar Losses The press of May 22 says: "A consolidated statement of earnings of the American Beet Sugar Company for the twelve months ended March 31 shows that a net loss was sustained of $639,379, after interest, depreciation, taxes and other charges. This contrasts with a net income for the twelve months preceding of $1,224,097, equivalent to $6.09 a share, earned on 150,000 shares of no par common stock after deduction of preferred stock dividends....Total assets for the twelve months were $25,902,170, against total liabilities of $25,317,847."

Cotton Farming Profits An editorial in Southern Ruralist for May 15 says: "J.S.Wittmeier, president of the First National Bank of Oneonta, Alabama, has thrown down a challenge to the farmers of his county that we doubt very seriously will ever be successfully met. It is this: 'We will give twenty acres of farm land to the first farmer in Blount County who can furnish proof that he has raised all cotton for the last six years and his cotton has increased his savings account in the bank each year, after paying his debts. We will give a pair of mules weighing 2,000 pounds to the first farmer in Blount County who can furnish proof that he has raised all cotton for the last six years and his cotton has kept an active balance on his checking account every day, after paying his debts. We will give a cow and young calf to the first farmer in Blount County who can furnish proof that he has raised all cotton for the last six years and his cotton has paid cash for his next year's fertilizer, after paying his debts. We will give a purebred pig to the first farmer in Blount County who can furnish proof that he has raised all cotton for the last six years and his cotton has paid him out of debt each year.' And as if that were not proof enough of this man's total lack of faith in the all-cotton farmer, he is going to go further and 'give a purebred rooster to the first farmer in Blount County who can furnish proof that he has raised all cotton for the last six years and his cotton has paid cash to his doctor for each visit.'....We will gladly make the trip from Atlanta to Oneonta to be present when any of these dares are met successfully. We would like one time in our life to see the farmer that has done so wonderful a thing....On the other hand, as Mr. Wittmeier puts it, and as we can vouch ourselves, there are hundreds of farmers who raise their living at home and then grow cotton who can do all the things the farmers of Blount County have been challenged to do above. What Mr.Wittmeier really meant to do by his offers was to stress again the fact that all cotton has never paid and never will. We hope he drives home the point. We will be very greatly surprised, however, if he finds anybody prepared even to come up and claim the rooster."

Fertilizer Sales An editorial in The American Fertilizer for May 15 says: "It is a significant fact that the reduction in fertilizer sales this season--as roughly indicated by tag sales--has occurred only in the Atlantic seaboard States of the South. Sales in the interior States are somewhat larger than last year. The interior and Gulf States are either growing more cotton this year or they are growing more early vegetable crops. Perhaps they are doing both. There has been no reduction in the amount of fertilizer used this spring in the South, measured in units of plant food. The average quality of the goods sold has been much higher than any previous year. The fertilizer sales, as a whole, give no indication of a reduced cotton crop. In particular sections, such as parts of northern Georgia, farmers have been obliged to reduce their purchase of fertilizers for financial reasons, but this has not been general throughout the Cotton Belt. The improved morale in the fertilizer industry is shown by these smaller

sales in certain districts. A few years ago anybody could buy fertilizers--sometimes at less than the cost of production. The manufacturers have learned in the hard school of experience that it is better to limit their sales to customers who give reasonable evidence of being able to pay for what they buy."

Flour Club

An editorial in The Northwestern Miller for May 19 says: "The Chicago Flour Club claims distinction as the first trade organization to give indorsement to plans now being considered by the Millers' National Federation to inaugurate a Nation-wide campaign for the defense of flour and its products against the activities of competing foods. At its meeting last week, the Chicago organization not only voiced its own approval but instructed its representatives to urge a similar resolution of indorsement by the National Federated Flour Clubs at its approaching annual convention. It has long been the belief of The Northwestern Miller that the entire body of the bread trades is ready to unite in whole-hearted support of a campaign in the interest of flour as soon as means and methods are devised. There is no reason to believe that this industry and its distributing agencies will forever be content to sit idly by while consumption of the products in which all are interested goes on declining."

Milling Industry Investigation

An editorial in The Northwestern Miller for May 19 says: "Washington news dispatches last week carried the inference that the United States Department of Justice was about to undertake an investigation of the milling industry as a result of charges made in the preliminary report of the Federal Trade Commission to the Senate. This inference was wholly in error, since no investigation has been ordered by the Attorney General, nor, as far as is known, is any contemplated. So far as millers are concerned, a fair, full and honestly conducted investigation of their affairs to determine the truth or falsity of the malicious charges of the Federal Trade Commission would be on all accounts desirable. Ordinarily no industry should relish the prospect of examination with a view to discovering possible violations of law. The position of milling is, however, such that an honest and unbiased survey seems to offer its only defense against the false charges and inferences contained in the commission's report, charges and inferences clearly inspired by desire for revenge because millers would not truckle to the commission's agents...In view of this situation, everything would be gained by an investigation of milling by the Department of Justice. It would quickly discover the utter falsity of the commission's charges and that, instead of being united in conspiracy, milling is torn with intensity of competition, saturated with bad commercial practices and constantly engaged in selling a large part of its product on a basis which is economically wasteful and destructive...."

Rubber

An editorial in New York Commercial for May 20 says: "It would be a wonderful thing for American industry if there could be developed a successful and acceptable substitute for rubber. In all probability the existing rubber shortage will continue, and even increase, during the next few years. Rubber consumption is growing faster than rubber production. Applied restriction and monopolistic methods by Britain are making matters in the rubber market no better, and since less than 4 per cent of the world's rubber investment is in the hands of American capital and practically none of it domiciled within our political jurisprudence, there seems little likelihood of the American rubber goods manufacturer playing any more important role in the rubber game than that of the squirmer. In the

absence of successful reclamation methods or the development of an economical and successful substitute, the immediate future of a few years holds little or nothing of an optimistic nature...."

Section 3
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products For the week ended May 22: Compared with a week ago, receipts of cattle at seven large midwestern markets were slightly lower, receipts of calves were about the same, receipts of hogs showed about 20,000 more and sheep about 20,000 less. Compared with the same period a year ago, cattle and calves were about 10,000 fewer, hogs about 50,000 and sheep about 20,000 less.

Bliss Triumph potatoes from Texas, Louisiana and Alabama closed at 50¢ to $1 lower at $5.75 to $6 sacked per 100 pounds in midwestern markets. Florida Spaulding Rose 25 to $1 higher at $10.50 to $11 per barrel in terminal markets; $9 to $9.50 f.o.b. Hastings. Texas Yellow Bermuda onions 10 to 25¢ lower at $1.50 to $2 per crate in distributing centers; $1.05 to $1.17 1/2 f.o.b. Crystal City. California Salmon Tint cantaloupes ranged 50¢ to $1.50 lower than a week ago, selling at $4 to $5.50 per standard 45's in consuming centers; $1.65 to $2 f.o.b. El Centro. Tennessee and Arkansas Klondike strawberries declined $2 to $2.50 to a range of $4 to $5 per 24-quart crate in city markets.

Hay market barely steady. Prices lower at New York and Missouri River Markets. Receipts moderate, mostly ordinary hay. Demand generally good. Quoted May 22: No.1 timothy Boston $27.50; New York $30; Pittsburgh $27.50; Cincinnati $27.50; Chicago $25; St.Louis $26.50; Kansas City $23.50; Memphis $29. No.1 alfalfa - Kansas City $23.50; Omaha $22.50; Memphis $30; No.1 prairie Kansas City $18; Omaha $18.75; St.Louis $19.50; Minneapolis $15.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets unchanged, closing at 17.92¢ per lb. New York July future contracts advanced 5 points, closing at 18.37¢.

Butter markets were somewhat firmer during the week ending May 22, and prices worked to slightly higher levels. Receipts were somewhat heavier than for the preceding week, but were lighter than the corresponding week in 1925. Closing prices on 92 score: New York 41 1/2¢; Chicago 40 1/4¢; Philadelphia 42 1/4¢; Boston 41 1/2¢.

Cheese markets showed a steady trend at the Board meetings at Plymouth Wisconsin on May 21 when prices were unchanged throughout. Wholesale prices at Wisconsin Primary markets May 21, 1926: Single Daisies 19 1/2¢; Longhorns 19 1/2¢.

Grain market irregular. Wheat futures generally higher than week ago. Soft winter wheat lower but hard wheat fairly steady. Corn futures weak but limited offerings of cash corn forcing prices higher. Fair amounts going to South and to Pacific Coast. Oats working lower with slack demand. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.).

Industrials and Railroads

| Average closing price | May 22, | May 21, | May 22, 1925 |
|---|---|---|---|
| 20 Industrials | 140.41 | 140.27 | 128.95 |
| 20 R.R. stocks | 108.91 | 108.10 | 99.05 |

(Wall St. Jour., May 24.)

- - -

# DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XXI, No. 47 Section 1 May 25, 1926.

PURE FOOD LAW ADMINISTRATION CHALLENGED W. J. Cookingham, counsel for the New Hartford-New York Canning Company, before the Senate agricultural committee yesterday charged the Department of Agriculture with persecuting the company in its administration of the pure food laws, according to the press to-day.

---

COTTON SUPPLY The press to-day states that the forecast of Brookmire Economic Service, Inc., for next season's world's consumption of cotton at the present spot level is 14,000,000 bales. The service bulletin places the world supply for 1925-26 at 19,400,000 bales of American cotton. The figure is based on a crop of more than 16,000,000 bales and a carryover of 3,300,000 bales.

---

SOUTHERN DELIVERY OF COTTON The New York Times to-day says: "A petition requesting the Board of Governors of the New York Cotton Exchange to submit a referendum to members of the market on the question of southern delivery against New York contracts has been circulated by exchange members and many signatures have already been affixed. The question has been before the membership many times, but sentiment has been divided upon the subject. Believing that it will eliminate the uneconomic cost of bringing cotton to the local market for delivery against contracts, some of the largest spot cotton firms in the trade have lined themselves up strongly in favor of southern delivery. These interests further contend that extraordinary manipulation between months will be obviated by southern delivery. The opposition holds that southern delivery will restrict trade and result in considerable confusion."

---

HOUSTON ON DEPARTMENT PREPAREDNESS Former Secretary of Agriculture, David F. Houston, writing on "Wilson as War President" in World's Work for June, describes some part of the activities of the department in aid of World War conditions. He says in part: "It was recognized, even before we entered the war, that the food problem was serious and that constructive action was necessary. The Department of Agriculture accordingly had taken steps to allay unnecessary apprehension, to promote economy and thrift, to secure fuller conservation of farm products and of foods, and to insure increased production of all essential agricultural commodities... The Nation was fortunate in having had in existence for many years, for the purpose of promoting scientific and practical agriculture, its Federal Department of Agriculture, and a department of agriculture and a land-grant college in each State, as well as great farmers' organizations. It is interesting to note that two of these agencies the Federal department and the land-grant colleges, had their national official recognition and their real origin in another period of stress--in 1862--in two acts of Congress approved by Abraham Lincoln."

---

NYE URGES FARM LEGISLATION Senator Nye, of North Dakota, in the Senate yesterday, urged immediate consideration of agricultural relief legislation, according to the press to-day.

---

Section 2

Eastern Agriculture

The States of New York and New Jersey, the heart of the industrial and urban East, constitute one of the greatest and richest agricultural areas in the country. In productivity, purchasing power and even in farm population, this territory ranks above many of the largest and almost exclusively rural States. These are among the conclusions resulting from a survey of the agricultural resources of New York and New Jersey as compared with those of major farming States of the Middle West. The survey was made by the Brookmire Economic Service for The American Agriculturist, a farm journal circulating mainly in New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania. "It is clear from this study," the director of research reported, "that New York is one of the great agricultural States of the country. New York and New Jersey combined constitute a rich farming section with an annual income greater than that of Ohio, Indiana, Missouri, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Kansas or Nebraska. Only one State east of the Mississippi River, namely, Illinois, exceeds this territory in farm income, and in the whole country only the four States of Texas, Iowa, California and Illinois outrank it. Moreover, the income per farm is relatively high in this eastern area, and the percentage of farms operated by owners is higher than in any other section."

Farm Taxes

An editorial in Farmstead, Stock and Home for May 15 says:"...The fact is that farmers' taxes are high because farmers pay an unjust proportion of taxes. The largest share of local taxes paid by farmers is for schools and roads. There is little that can be done to reduce the cost of a school. Wages are high. School teachers' salaries are double what they used to be, and more. And you can't get a good teacher for less. Materials to build school houses and the wages of carpenters and masons are more than double what they used to be. And farmers have no control of this, either. Labor to build and maintain roads costs more than it used to. Farmers can not control that. In the old days, the child educated on the farm usually stayed in the farming community, and his abilities, whether as a farmer, or as a blacksmith, a shoemaker or a wagon maker, stayed in the community and paid taxes in the community. Now, more than half of the children, educated in rural communities and at the expense of farmers, go to the cities. Rural communities stand the expense of their education, but get little direct tax-paying benefit from their mature activities. The grain produced on the farm is no longer milled at the community mill. It goes to Minneapolis, Kansas City or Buffalo. The livestock is no longer made into meat by the local butcher, and leather by the local tanner. It goes to the big centers. The farm machinery, the clothing and even much of the foods are processed in factories in large cities. Thus enormous values are concentrated where the number of children to be educated is comparatively small. The tax rate for school purposes, therefore, is enormously higher in the rural communities than in the industrial centers, even though the schools do not compare for quality. The roads which serve the farmer for marketing his products serve the city man equally by getting those foods to him. We can not very well reduce greatly the principal items of cost that make taxes high. But we can and should change our method of taxation to conform to changing conditions."

Flax in Mexico

A Manuel, Mexico, dispatch to the press of May 24 states that experiments made in growing flax in the Tamaulipas section last season were so successful that more than 3,000 acres of land are now being prepared for planting the new crop. It is stated that there is a good demand for the seed in Mexico and that a linen mill in Mexico City is prepared to purchase large quantities of the fiber.

Fort on Haugen Bill

Clinton W. Gilbert, in his "Daily Mirror of Washington," in The Philadelphia Ledger for May 24 says: "No speech, no speaker, Nicholas Longworth said, had in his time had so much effect in the House as the one made by Franklin W. Fort, of New Jersey, on the opening day of the debate on the Haugen Farm Bill. Mr. Fort was put forward to answer Congressman Haugen's argument for the bill. Mr. Fort is a member of the House committee on agriculture and he is a banker. The Haugen bill is a measure for financing the farmer's disposal of his surplus crops. As a finance bill, it was up Mr. Fort's street as a banker. As a member of the agriculture committee, he had studied it. He was thus the best qualified man in the House to analyze it destructively. So the unusual thing happened. A young member--he's 46--in his first term in the House was put forward to make the chief speech against the bill. That's the kind of thing that does not happen except in the storybooks. And Mr. Fort's everlasting fame is made, so far as Congress is concerned.... They gave Mr. Fort an hour to speak against the bill. When his hour was up the House demanded that he go on. And when his second hour was up, the House wanted to hear more. So he talked, in all, two hours and a half. And when he had finished, eastern members who were hesitating on the Haugen bill were convinced against it and a good many southern members had decided not to vote for it."

Irish Agriculture

An editorial in The Irish Statesman (Dublin) for May 8 says: "It is indisputable that agriculture is the fundamental industry in the Free State, and the deliberations of congresses reputed to represent the views of Irish farmers are entitled to serious consideration. But we doubt if the voice of the most intelligent farmers was heard in the congress held last week. Many of those present obviously were not farmers at all. We would not mind that if they put forward policies worthy of respect. But what are we to think of men who come to a congress and complain of the prices they receive for their produce, comparing these with the prices at which that produce is retailed in the shops, and then come to the conclusion that their only remedy for this is protection for agriculture? The policy of protection for Irish agriculture may be argued on its merits. But what possible beneficial effect can a high tariff upon imported foodstuffs have upon the disparity which exists between farmers' prices and the prices at which potatoes, fruit, etc., are vended in the shops? In what way are the two problems related? It would have occurred to the farmers in almost any other country in the world that an organization of their own to control the marketing of their produce was the proper way to deal with the matter. But that would have involved self-help, and the only voice in the conference which suggested organization for the better marketing of their produce was silenced with the remark that the country was sick of such policies. There was not one single resolution passed which suggested that Irish farmers should or could do anything to help themselves. We do not believe these men represent in any way the mentality of the best Irish farmers. The best farmers are those who have adopted the policy of self-help, who have at least tried to organize dairy, agricultural and poultry and credit societies and to take over the control of their own business. If they have not attained in this quite the successful efficiency of their European rivals, it is, we believe, less their fault than that the educational system of the country did not throw up in sufficient numbers men with the technical competence required for the secretarial and managerial work. But there are over one hundred thousand Irish farmers in such organizations, and we believe that

if Irish agriculture is to become prosperous it can only be through the perfecting of this unpolitical organization for business purposes and by its serious adoption by the hitherto unorganized section of Irish farmers. We can not imagine anything which would shame these men who despise the policy of self-help more than to look through the publications for the past fifteen years of the International Institute of Agriculture where they could find accurate, full and reliable information of the great economic organizations created by farmers in five continents, for purchase of raw materials, remanufacture, and marketing of produce, crop and cattle insurance, credit, reclamation of waste lands, forestry associations, farm women's institutes, etc. There is not a single aspect of rural life and business which has not been organized and taken out of the hands of such middle agencies as those whose exactions the delegates at the Agricultural Congress last week wailed over but yet had not sufficient energy or capacity to think of superseding by organizations of their own.....They are at the infancy stage of economic thinking."

Rubber

"Synthetic rubber and the natural product some day are going to meet and fight it out for supremacy. This clash will bring an unusually bitter industrial war. This forecast is made by L. E. Weber of Boston in a summary of the rubber situation made public by the American Chemical Society. Synthetic rubber is yet far off, and when it does come it will be forced to fight, declares Mr. Weber, and the chief ally of its adversary will be the plant biologist, described as a future foe of untold power. The rubber synthesist is being deceived by the easy conquest achieved by synthetic indigo, according to Mr. Weber, who asserts that natural indigo was a weakling in the hands of uneducated natives, while the rubber plantation industry is highly organized and ready to fight with the tools of science...." (Press, May 23.)

Skimmilk

An editorial in Hoard's Dairyman for May 25 says: "We are very enthusiastic over the dry skimmilk industry. Skimmilk has not had a square deal. It is one of our best food products and yet only a few people know of its value....We look with favor upon the Skimmilk Institute which is an organization to further the use of dry skimmilk. Its first annual meeting was recently held in Chicago and its program, participated in by men directly interested in its development, clearly shows that there is a large opportunity for the use of dry skimmilk powder in the human diet. This organization is developing legitimate ways and means of selling this product as a food and we commend highly the course it is taking."

Stamp on Surpluses

"A British View of Surpluses" is the title of an interview given by Sir Joseph Stamp to J. George Frederick, published in The Farm Journal for June. Mr. Frederick says: "Everybody admits that England has need, these days, for all her economic brains. Fortunately she has a lot of them. And among the cream of them is Sir Josiah Stamp, recently made head of the London, Midland & Scottish Railway (which carried 500,000,000 passengers last year)....I was told in London that Sir Josiah is relied upon by the British Treasury as its principal economic advisor. He was the Englishman selected by the International Chamber of Commerce to study the question of international transfers of reparation payments. What does Sir Josiah think of the situation that would be created if the United States Government were to pay farmers export bounties on grain, tobacco, cotton and meat products, the funds to be supplied by an excise tax on production?...'The effect of such a plan,' said he, 'almost inevitably will be to increase the volume of exports, if the domestic price is to be raised.

This domestic price increase will also result in decreased demand, which, too, will increase the volume that must be exported. In general, this method of handling exports will, I believe, result in a downward tendency in the world price; since the farmers, influenced by rising domestic price, will push production and increase the total supply. The final net result will be that the cost of living will be enhanced, something that strongly tends to demands for increased wages on the part of workers in all lines. ...It is possible, also, that the scheme might have unfavorable international reactions. There is always a considerable amount of feeling on the question of 'dumping' and it might be alleged of wheat on a very large scale. This aspect of the matter, again, is very difficult to discuss, but it may be desirable just to bear it in mind."

## Section 3
## MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products May 24: Florida Spaulding Rose potatoes tend lower in eastern cities at $10.25 to $10.75 per barrel. South Carolina Irish Cobblers $8 to $10 per barrel in a few eastern markets. Texas Yellow Bermuda onions generally weaker at $1.50 to $2 per crate in consuming centers; $1.10 to $1.25 f.o.b. California Salmon Tint cantaloupes 50¢ to $1.50 lower at $4 to $5.50 per standard crate of 45 melons in terminal markets; $1.85 to $2 f.o.b. El Centro. Virginia various varieties of strawberries 15 to 23¢ quart basis in eastern cities; $4 to $4.50 per 32-quart crate f.o.b. Tennessee and Arkansas Klondikes $3.50 to $4.50 per 24-quart crate; Aromas $4.50 to $6.

Chicago hog prices closed at $14.55 for the top, bulk of sales $13.50 to $14.10; beef steers, choice, $9.65 to $10.40; heifers, good and choice, $7.40 to $10.10, cows, good and choice, $6.50 to $7.65; canners and cutters $4.15 to $5.35; vealers, medium to choice, $9 to $13.50; heavy calves medium to choice $6.75 to $8.75; stocker and feeder steers, common to choice $6.75 to $9; fat lambs medium to choice $13 to $15.75; yearling wethers, medium to choice, $10.50 to $14.50; fat ewes, common to choice $4.75 to $8.

Closing prices on 92 score butter: New York 41 1/2¢; Chicago 40 1/4¢; Philadelphia 42¢; Boston 42¢.

Grain prices quoted May 24: No.1 dark northern Minneapolis $1.59 to $1.66. No.2 red winter Chicago $1.64 3/4; St.Louis $1.55; Kansas City $1.53. No.2 hard winter Chicago $1.65; St.Louis $1.58; Kansas City $1.54. No.3 mixed corn Chicago 69 1/4¢; Minneapolis 64¢; Kansas City 68 3/4¢; No.4 mixed corn Chicago 66 1/2¢. No.2 yellow corn Chicago 72 1/2¢; No.3 yellow corn Minneapolis 66 1/2¢; St.Louis 72 3/4¢. No.3 white corn Chicago 73¢; St.Louis 73 1/2¢; Kansas City 70 3/4¢. No.3 white oats Chicago 41 1/4¢; St.Louis 41 1/2¢; Minneapolis 37 1/2¢; Kansas City 41 1/2¢.

Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets declined 9 points, closing at 17.83¢ per lb. New York July future contracts declined 11 points, closing at 18.26¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

| Industrials and Railroads | Average closing price | May 24, | May 22, | May 23, 1925 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 20 Industrials | 141.16 | 140.41 | 128.85 |
| | 20 R.R. stocks | 103.84 | 103.91 | 90.01 |

(Wall St. Jour., May 25.)

- - -

# DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XXI, No. 48 Section 1 May 26, 1926.

FARM RELIEF LEGISLATION An Associated Press dispatch to-day says: "Agitation for enactment of farm relief legislation embodying the equalization fee principle of the Haugen bill was renewed yesterday in the Senate by Senator Watson, who disclosed that Vice President Dawes was in favor of such a program. The Vice President, who was presiding at the time, Senator Watson said, has been corresponding for some time with various economists and farm leaders in an effort to obtain a consensus of what should be done....Senator Watson, who advised his colleagues that he had been converted to the plan as a means of stimulating agriculture by stabilizing surplus prices, read a memorandum on the subject prepared by the Vice President.

"While the subject was being discussed in the Senate, Representative Anthony introduced in the House a modified form of the Haugen bill, which was defeated Friday. It would retain the equalization fee to be levied on basic commodities, including wheat, cotton, corn, hogs, cattle and butter. Price stabilization would be left to the proposed Federal Farm Board, however, with no provision, as in the Haugen bill, for the price of each product to be maintained at its world market quotation plus the import tariff. In the Anthony measure the appropriation for advances to producers would be $100,000,000. In the Haugen bill it was $175,000,000."

---

TARIFF DUTIES The Senate yesterday adopted without a record vote the George resolution directing the Tariff Commission to inquire into the comparative costs of peanuts, soya beans and cottonseed oil in the United States and principal competing countries and report to the President as to whether there should be an increase in the tariff duties. (Press, May 26.)

---

RUBBER TRADING A New York dispatch to the press to-day states that the Cocoa and Rubber Exchange of America resumed yesterday its former title of New York Cocoa Exchange, Inc., the members voting to eliminate all amendments from the bylaws relating to trading in rubber futures, which is now carried on by the Rubber Exchange of New York.

---

VEGETABLE AND CATTLE RATES Rates on livestock and vegetables were attacked in arguments yesterday in the Interstate Commerce Commission's western freight rate investigation. A.H.Brown, of the Cleveland Chamber of Commerce, charged that combination rates on livestock to Cleveland from points west of Chicago were stifling to growers. He said that if given a relative equality of rates with competing markets the Cleveland livestock industry would furnish the country with one additional market for the product, to the benefit of the consumer. H.C. Lust, representing the Pacific Coast Vegetable Growers and Shippers' Transportation Committee, said that under a new scale approved by the commission the carriers in California had been given an additional $3,000,000 in revenues, virtually all coming from lettuce growers. (Press, May 26.)

---

Section 2

Agricultural Legislation

An editorial on the defeat of the Haugen bill, in Chicago Journal of Commerce for May 24, says: "....The chief cause of its defeat was the disintegration of the farm forces all through the early part of the session. Later, when a majority of the farm organizations had gotten together, they handicapped the bill through an obvious effort to subsidize southern support, by offering to cotton, which needed less assistance than the grains or livestock, and for which there was little sentiment demanding a subsidy, far greater benefits than were provided for the very regions and the very products that were crying for help. There should be no question that something ought to be done for agriculture, and done without delay. Consequently the farm organizations should draw together now to formulate and procure the passage of the best possible measure that can be based upon the fundamental idea of the Tincher bill. This fundamental idea is that the farmers should be helped to solve their problems by governmental assistance in the creation of better marketing machinery. The farmers should be organized in cooperatives and should function as such. If marketing wastes could be eliminated, agriculture would be more prosperous than ever before in its history. The farmer is entitled to such credit as he needs to hold his products a reasonable length of time so as to sell at a period of favorable prices. And the farmer should be supplied with better information as to the outlook for market conditions. These ends would be fostered by the Tincher bill. However, in the supply of credit for the farmer, care should be taken not to crush him with debt. The proposal that governmental loans be made over a long period of years on commodities that may be consumed before the first interest payment is due on the loan, is thoroughly unsound. When the farmer is loaned money to enable him to market a product, the loan should be repaid as soon as the product is sold. Loans that are not self-liquidating are an encouragement to the farmer to load himself down with a debt he will be unable to pay."

Commodity Prices

Federal Reserve Bulletin, in its review for May, says: "For a period of eight months commodity prices have had a gradual but continuous decline, and in March the average of prices was more than 5 per cent below last summer and at the lowest level since the autumn of 1924. This prolonged recession in prices, which for several months had reflected chiefly declines in the prices of farm products, became more general after the beginning of this year, and at the end of the first quarter the prices of nearly all groups of commodities were at a lower level than at any time in more than a year. The relative stability of prices of industrial commodities during the past 18 months has accompanied a large growth in industrial production and in the volume of trade. The large output of basic materials produced during the period has, in fact, been marketed at prices that for many commodities have shown a gradual recession, indicating that in order to move their current output through the channels of distribution producers were obliged to make concessions in the prices of their products. This has been notably true of iron and steel production, which has been very active, while the prices of steel products have continuously declined. There has also been a downward tendency in the prices of building materials, at a time when construction work has been in record volume. Many industrial enterprises during the past year have thus been conducted on a narrower margin of prices over costs and have depended for their profits on a large volume of output."

Farmer Profits An editorial in The Michigan Farmer for May 22 says: "The one thing most needed by agriculture to-day, stated one of the speakers at the recent Farm Electrification Conference at Chicago, is an efficient and effective sales service. Such a sales organization would need to sell not only farm products, but also agriculture to both the farmers and the public. In the matter of selling farm products, many progressive farmers have recently shifted their viewpoint. No longer is the price the only item about the marketing of a crop on which they wish to be informed. At one time this was true, but now farmers are more disposed to study profits. What is over and above costs is the commanding factor. Unless cost can be kept below the prices received, the farmer of to-day knows that he is failing. An important phase of this study of profits is the type of product that farmers are offering for sale. It is now better known among farm people that it is difficult to sell a poor product, and relatively easy to sell a good one. After all, the old system of marketing would not have been so bad had dealers received from the farm a more salable product. It required the experience gained in cooperative marketing to teach farmers the necessity of better production methods."

Florida Marketing The New York Times for May 25 says: "A new corporation known as the Florida Markets, Inc., which will organize markets in many cities in Florida, has been announced. These markets, when put into operation, will encourage farming throughout the State, especially truck gardening and the raising of cattle in better grades and larger numbers. The plan for organizing these markets will be the same as used in bringing about the Miami Community Market,which will rise shortly on a triangular plot in the Art Craft section, close to the proposed station of the Seaboard Air Line. Widespread interest in the organization of the Miami Community Market is due to the trend throughout Florida to encourage permanent industries and institutions, especially relating to the development of agriculture....Each market established will be equipped with a cold storage plant to provide for a year-round supply of the State's products and an efficient distribution of pure food stuffs. Special study will be made of location, parking facilities, shipping accommodations, sanitation and merchandising methods."

Iowa Situation An Omaha, Neb., dispatch to the press of May 25 says: "Agricultural distress in Iowa is more imaginary than real, according to Colonel N. L. Howard, president of the Chicago and Great Western Railroad, who has made an inspection of the Iowa lines of his road. It is from Iowa that the loudest complaints of farm distress are coming, according to Mr. Howard. 'Farm conditions in Iowa are not as black as they are painted,' he said. 'It is the farmer who speculated in land leases that is complaining. It is really the land speculator and not the farmer who is in distress. It is true, of course, that there is not the proper relationship between the price paid for farm products and the price the farmer must pay in buying necessities. Iowa is fast becoming a manufacturing State as well as a farming State. Last year the output of Iowa factories almost equaled the output of Iowa farms. And remember that Iowa is one of the very first farming States in the country...."

Maple Sugar Publicity The press of May 25 states that at a recent meeting of the Vermont Press Association held in Burlington, Vt., it was decided to advertise Vermont by a special train called the "Vermont Maple Sugar Special." The date for leaving Vermont was set as May 18, and the train will visit every important city from Boston to Chicago. The route laid out is: To Boston,

thence west to Providence, Hartford, New Haven, New York City, Buffalo, Detroit, Washington, thence to Chicago.

Migratory Bird Legislation

An editorial in The Washington Post for May 25 says: "The migratory bird conservation bill now before the Senate is supplemental legislation to the bird treaty now in effect with Canada and necessary to carry out the purposes of the treaty. A new and wholly unanticipated danger threatens the existence of migratory wild fowl because of the extraordinary rapidity with which fresh water areas and marshlands are being drained or otherwise destroyed. The birds are being crowded into the remaining water areas to such an extent that their food supply is endangered, and for the same reason diseases have developed which have destroyed millions of birds. The only possible remedy which will insure the perpetuation of the wild-fowl supply and the fine sport of wild-fowl hunting is the saving of existing marshlands and the restoration, when possible, of drained areas, always with due consideration for farming values. The migratory bird bill now before the Senate provides the means to accomplish the result. Funds for purchasing the marshlands are to be provided by a Federal license fee of one dollar imposed on the duck hunters. The States require similar fees from those who hunt localized game. The hunters are anxious to be thus taxed, not only for the sake of their sport, but to save from annihilation the splendid species of water fowl which are one of the glories of America's wilds....Sportsmen are giving up existing shooting grounds in order that they may be turned into sanctuaries for the welfare of the birds. They are to pay the entire cost of this great conservation project. No other class of citizens is either giving up anthing or paying anything. All that the sportsmen ask in return is that there be insured for the future, from the purchases made under the provisions of the bill, a reasonable number of areas to which the public may have access for shooting. The bill is constructive and will accomplish its purpose without injury to any interest. It should pass without amendment."

Overproduction

An editorial in The Wall Street Journal for May 25 says: "A great chemist once pointed out that dirt was only matter in the wrong place. With a perfectly organized world, or even a perfectly organized country of the extent of the United States, there could be no such thing as 'overproduction.' There is no overproduction of breath by a healthy pair of lungs. Any suggestion made for the betterment of the farmer without buying his vote with subsidies from the United States Treasury brings out the retort that efficient farming would mean overproduction. Milking cows is suspiciously like hard work, and when the farmer's wife and daughter have milked a score of scrubs they may justly feel that they have performed something of a chore. But if instead they have milked five pedigree or even grade cows, obtaining more and better milk, tested by its butterfat content, they will probably not be alarmed about overproduction...When it is suggested in these columns that the farmer can get double the return for the same overhead or less by seed selection, misguided friends of the farmer evoke the spectre of overproduction. They say that there would be too much corn in Iowa. If all the already known uses of corn are put at the service of the farmer, there can be no overproduction of that grain in half a century measured by even a reduced rate of population growth.... Thank goodness we are breeding a kind of farmer who despises the role of injured victim, and applies the efficiency discoveries of industry to his business. He would be a poor American indeed who believed that the farmer, anywhere, was the pitiable object pictured by his friends in Congress. A

protective tariff has been rightly considered a stimulus to infant industry. It may not have brought the farmer all that its advocates promised, although he pays least of any of us in the things he consumes. But there is all the difference in the world between such stimulants and crutches for industries permitted to decay through bad politics and sheer ignorance. More power to the Department of Agriculture and other influences which are teaching the farmer to help himself."

Section 3

MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products May 25: South Carolina Irish Cobbler potatoes sold at $8 to $8.50 per slat barrel in New York City. Florida Spaulding Rose $10 to $10.75 per barrel in eastern cities. Texas Yellow Bermuda onions ranged $1.60 to $2 per crate in consuming centers; $1.10 to $1.25 f.o.b. Crystal City. Salmon Tint cantaloupes from the Imperial Valley of California brought $3.50 to $4.50 per standard 45 in leading markets and sold at $1.85 to $1.90 f.o.b. El Centro. Various varieties of strawberries from the Eastern Shore of Virginia and Maryland closed at 13¢ to 20¢ quart basis in eastern cities. Tennessee and Arkansas Klondikes $4 to $4.50 per 24-quart crate in midwestern cities.

Chicago hog prices closed at $14.50 for the top, bulk of sales $13.60 to $14.10. Beef steers choice $9.75 to $10.40, good $9.25 to $10; heifers, good and choice $7.50 to $10; cows, good and choice, $6.75 to $7.75; canner and cutters $4 to $5.25; vealers, medium to choice, $9.75 to $13.75; heavy calves, medium to choice $6.50 to $8.50; fat lambs medium to choice $13.25 to $16; yearling wethers, medium to choice, $10.50 to $14.50; ewes, common to choice, $4.50 to $7.75.

Grain prices quoted May 25: No.1 dark northern Minneapolis $1.59 to $1.65. No.2 red winter Chicago $1.63; St. Louis $1.54; Kansas City $1.52 1/2. No.2 hard winter Chicago $1.63 1/2; St.Louis $1.58; Kansas City $1.52 1/2. No.2 mixed corn Chicago 71¢. No.2 mixed corn Minneapolis 64¢; Kansas City 68 1/2¢. No.2 yellow corn Chicago 71 3/4¢. No.3 yellow corn Chicago 70 3/4¢; St. Louis 70 1/2¢; Minneapolis 66 1/2¢; Kansas City 71 1/2¢. No.3 white corn Chicago 71¢; St.Louis 71 1/2¢; Kansas City 70 1/2¢. No.3 white oats Chicago 41 1/2¢; St.Louis 41 1/2¢; Minneapolis 37 1/2¢; Kansas City 41 1/2¢.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets declined 8 points, closing at 17.91¢ per lb. New York July future contracts advanced 10 points, closing at 18.36¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Industrials and Railroads | Average closing price | May 25, | May 24, | May 25, 1925 |
| | 20 Industrials | 141.20 | 141.16 | 127.78 |
| | 20 R.R. stocks | 109.23 | 108.84 | 99.15 |

(Wall St. Jour., May 26.)

---

# DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XXI, No. 49 Section 1 May 27,1926

CUMMINS ON FARM RELIEF The Government alone can give the farmer an equal chance with those in other lines of endeavor, Senator Cummings declared yesterday in the Senate, in urging the Corn Belt relief bill despite its rejection last week by the House. "That agriculture needs the aid which the Government alone can give is agreed upon everywhere and by every person," Senator Cummins told the Senate. "The President sees it and the Secretary of Agriculture admits it. There may be--indeed there is--wide difference of opinion with respect to the measures that ought to be employed, but all thinking men and women agree upon one thing: That the Government should do something to arrest the declin. in farm prices and farm values." (Press, May 27.)

---

GOOD ROADS BILL After voting, 64 to 12, to consider the House bill extending for two years the Government aid to good roads, the Senate was forced yesterday, by determined opposition from Senator Reed of Pennsylvania, to lay it aside for other business. (Press, May 27.)

---

COTTON OIL BILL The press to-day reports: "Opposition to the Mayfield bill providing for the regulation of the cotton oil exchanges was voiced yesterday before the Senate agriculture committee. William A. Storts, chairman of the committee on the regulation of cottonseed products of the New York Produce Exchange, declared that the trade opposed the bill because it placed control of the exchanges under the Secretary of Agriculture, and because it would not permit uniformity of regulation. F. W. McKee of the Van Camp Packing Company opposed the bill on the grounds that it would interfere with free trading and that the present method is satisfactory."

---

LIVESTOCK RATES The Interstate Commerce Commission, which is hearing arguments on the proposed western freight rate increase, yesterday heard a complaint that livestock rates in the Southwest already are so high that cattlemen are avoiding use of the railroads. Appearing as a cattle raiser, rather than as a member of Congress, Representative Hudspeth, Texas, told the commission that one of his herds recently was moved on foot over the trails 150 miles at a cost of 50 cents a head, whereas it would have cost him $1.25 a head to ship them to the same destination. Another cattleman, he declared, drove a herd from the Texas Panhandle to a Kansas ranch 500 miles away to avoid payment of freight rates. Challenging "the cowologists of the railroad companies" to show where any cattle raiser in Texas had earned more than 3½ per cent in the last five years, Mr. Hudspeth said the fact of the matter was that the growers of livestock were leaving the ranches by the thousands. (Press, May 27.)

---

Section 2

Agricultural Legislation

In an editorial on the Haugen bill defeat, The Wall Street Journal for May 26 says: "....The House killed the bill, not from political motives, nor because it was unfriendly to the farmers, but because it saw the bill was radically dangerous not only to the farmers but to the countr as a whole. Following this action of the House it is to be hoped that the Senate will rise to the occasion and give Haugenism, as expressed in the equalization fee and governmental price fixing, an impressive burial. When that is done it will be found that the only mourners are a small and noisy group whose main object is to farm the farmers."

British Strike Surrender

An editorial in The Wall Street Journal for May 26 says: "A casual reader of news from a distance would say that the British general strike was broken by the unconditional surfender of the General Trades Union Council. But what broke the General Trades Union Council? The treasuries of the unions it claimed to represent were not exhausted, and as 2,500,000 out of a possible 4,360,000 workers had struck, nearly half of them were drawing unemployment doles. But what broke the strike was a momentous decision by Justice Astbury in the Court of Chancery. Members of the Seamen's and Firemen's Union, acting as a union, asked an injunction against a strike declaration by their officers. In granting the injunction Mr. Justice Astbury, reported to the London Times in the third person but otherwise verbatim, gave a decision under common law. It was reported as follows: 'In his opinion the so-called general strike was illegal and contrary to law, and those inciting persons to it were not protected by the Trade Disputes Act, 1906.....' That puts an end to 'sympathy' strikes. There are now two sides to 'collective bargaining.' The union officers who order a strike without being able to show a 'trade dispute' as a reason for doing so, can be enjoined from spending union funds by the members of the union, while the union can be sued by the other party to the collective bargain, the employer. It will be remembered that the British railway men made an especially humiliating surrender to save their union funds. It is worth while to recall that the Trade Disputes Act of 1906 was passed by Parliament to relieve the trade unions after the courts had held the unions liable for heavy damages in what is known as the Taff Vale decision. But that Act strictly specifies a trade dispute as a cause for strikes...."

France's Foreign Trade

France's foreign trade returns for the first quarter of this year show that in values there is a gain for both imports and exports over the corresponding period of 1925, but that in imports it is 51 per cent and in exports only 21 per cent. According to advices received by the Bankers Trust Company of New York from its French Information Service, this accounts for the fact that a favorable balance of 1,082,000,000 francs has been changed into an unfavorable one of 1,585,000,000. Fortunately, however, the month of March makes a much better showing than its two predecessors. In January the excess of imports was 615,000,000 and in February 835,000,000, whereas last month it was only 135,000,000. This would seem to reflect the tendency of prices of exported goods to approximate the prices of imported goods - in other words, of the internal price level to rise slowly to the external.

International Economic Reconstruction Survey

To pave the way for the completion of the task of international economic reconstruction the International Chamber of Commerce has announced a plan for conducting a survey which has for its purpose the removal of artificial barriers in the paths of international trade and the stimulation of the flow of commerce upon which the economic vitality of the world

depends. The organization of a Central International Committee has been completed. To assist it in the huge task of gathering information concerning trade obstacles in all parts of the world sub-committees are in process of formation in each of the forty countries represented in the membership of the chamber. Hartley Withers, former financial editor of the London Times and the Economist, with a staff of experts, will correlate for the central committee the material gathered by the national subcommittees, each of which will ascertain from the business interests of their own countries the difficulties encountered in carrying on foreign trade. In this work American business men will take a conspicuous part. Roland W. Boyden, former American observer on the Reparations Commission, will be a vice chairman of the central committee with Consul Dr. Karl Kotzenbert, representing Germany. The chairman will be Etienne Clementel, former French Minister of Finance. The members of the American sub-committee, as at present constituted are: Julius H. Barnes, president of the Barnes-Ames Company, New York, chairman; Walker D. Hines, former Director of Railways and Referee of Danubian Shipping; F. Edson White, president of Armour and Company, Chicago; John N. Willys, president of the Willys-Overland Company, Toledo, Ohio. The American sub-committee is now obtaining from exporters and importers in the United States and American concerns engaged in foreign trade first-hand information regarding specific hindrances with which they are confronted in finding and reaching foreign markets for American products.

Pacific Land Grant

An editorial in American Forests for June says: "The Joint Committee of Congress, appointed more than a year ago to investigate the old Pacific land grant, is finding its task a long and complex one. The committee has been holding hearings periodically for many months and the end of the testimony is not yet clearly in sight. There appears to be little chance of the investigation being completed in time for the findings of the committee to be reported to Congress this session....The Forest Service is contending that the Northern Pacific land grant has already been fully satisfied and that the company is not entitled to select a single additional acre. More than that it holds that an accounting from the railroad may justify Congress in canceling the patents to all granted lands which the corporations still retain.....The testimony thus far given has been very voluminous and enlightening as to the history and operation of this old land grant. The investigation is in the nature of an accounting on the part of the railroad in order that Congress may determine the equity of legislation which would deny the company the lands in question. If the contentions of the Forest Service are correct, it would appear that Congress has good grounds for action. Certainly the value of the public property involved and the effect of its dismemberment from the National Forests upon forest administration justify the Committee in making a thorough and complete investigation of the situation."

Timber as a Crop

An editorial in Florida Times-Union for May 20 says: "The Knoxville Journal says that the time is very near when the only source of lumber and wood will be in trees grown on suitable lands as a timber crop, adding that 'already a beginning has been made in many places of thinking of timber as a crop, produced in a given length of time from the soil, and not merely as a raw material to be handled as minerals are and taken from a fixed supply, which, however large, is necessarily and permanently diminished every year.' The Journal believes that it will be better for the producers and consumers of timber when the facts in the case are realized and hopes that the idea can be spread and accepted generally,

that timber must be planted and raised, as a crop, unless the people would have the business abandoned a few years from now. 'It is possible to introduce the crop idea into forests which have not yet been destroyed, possible to cut an annual crop from such forests and to have them keep on producing such a crop every year indefinitely, except where forest land is so fertile that other crops would be more profitable, and this is the way all forests should be treated,' declares the Journal. But it does not feel that this is going to be done; at least not right away. And it is remarked that even with such treatment as suggested there has already been so much destruction of forests, through cutting and by forest fires, as to render necessary replanting if the industry is to survive. The Tennessee newspaper very properly remarks that reforestation is easier and will bring quicker results in the South than in other sections of the country. The advantage of this section of America is in the longer growing season, a very important factor in raising a crop of timber....The South is vitally interested in new crops, and the matter of reforestation, to provide timber for the future, will be seized upon by far-sighted men. There is vast acreage in the South that is available for timber crops; land that is not needed for agriculture, and land that will grow splendid trees in a comparatively few years' time. The South should be awake to the opportunity."

Trade Relations With Canada An editorial in The Farmer's Advocate (Ontario) for May 20 says: "When it was recently made known that approximately 60,000,000 copies of United States newspapers and magazines came annually into Canada, a strong protest was voiced by Canadian publications from one end of Canada to the other....Public men representing many callings and professions have made frequent references to the situation and have added their protest to the prostitution of our homes with alien reading matter. It has also been discussed on the floor of the House at Ottawa, and when the subject is brought clearly and exhaustively to the attention of Parliament we believe the Government and Commoners will use their best judgment in curbing what is a very serious menace to the national life of this Dominion. The magnitude of the problem demands the best thought of all classes of people and of the organizations that represent them. It is not alone a menace to Canadian sentiment and national standards, and to the whole publishing enterprise in Canada. It is more far-reaching than that. The millions of pages of advertising matter carried by these United States magazines draw millions of dollars out of Canada, for which there is no compensating advantage, thus robbing our own manufacturers of business, our own people of employment and our own producers of a market...."

Wheat Situation An editorial in The Nor'-West Farmer (Winnipeg) for May 20 says: "The market situation at present is weak, and the price tendency seems to be towards lower levels. True, the supply situation does not support the view that lower prices are in order, but market sentiment appears to favor the idea that wheat should be selling below the dollar and a half level; and sentiment, more than statistics, as has frequently been noted, makes the price. European countries are buying as little wheat as possible. Their trouble is to find the money with which to pay for wheat. It should be remembered that the currencies of most European countries which usually are the best buyers of Canadian wheat, have little value in dollars. Belgium, France, Greece and Italy can not be expected to make heavy purchases of anything outside their own borders when their money is worth only a fraction of its stated value. The franc, for example, of the

approximate value of 20 cents, is at present quoted under 4 cents, or approximately one-fifth its stated value. The Frenchman would have to find exactly five times as many francs to pay for a bushel of wheat as he would if the franc was at par. The same holds for the other nations mentioned and for most countries of Europe outside the United Kingdom. And there labor troubles are making it increasingly difficult for people to buy the necessaries of existence. An important bear factor, too, is the high general condition of the oncoming crop....At the moment, with every prospect pleasing, the price tendency is downward. Generally speaking that tendency should be in order until we have a crop scare here or somewhere else. June, however, may tell a different tale. On the moisture received during the next four weeks the volume of the wheat crop of these provinces and the world price level for some time depends."

## Section 3
## MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products May 26: Louisiana and Alabama sacked Bliss Triumph potatoes ranged $1.50 to $2.75 lower at $3.50 to $4.75 per 100 pounds in midwestern cities. Florida Spaulding Rose 50¢ to $1.50 lower at $9 to $10.50 per barrel. Texas Yellow Bermuda onions slightly weaker at $1.50 to $2 per crate in consuming centers; $1.10 to $1.15 f.o.b. Crystal City. California Salmon Tint cantaloupes declined $1.50 to $2.50 to a closing range of $3 to $4 per crate in distributing centers; $1.50 to $1.75 f.o.b. El Centro. Tennessee and Arkansas Klondike strawberries sold $1 to $1.50 lower at $4.50 to $5 per 24-quart crate. Florida Fancy Count tomatoes generally weaker at $5 to $6.50 per 6-basket carrier.

Chicago hog prices closed at $14.35 for the top, bulk of sales $13.50 to $14.10; beef steers, heifers, good and choice, $7.50 to $10.10; cows, good and choice, $6.75 to $7.75, canner and cutter $3.85 to $5; vealers, medium to choice $9.75 to $13.75; heavy calves, medium to choice, $6.50 to $8.50; stocker and feeder steers, common to choice, $6.75 to $9; fat lambs medium to choice $13.25 to $16; yearling wethers, medium to choice, $10.50 to $14.50; fat ewes, common to choice, $4.50 to $7.75.

Closing prices on 92 score butter: New York 41¢; Chicago 39 1/2¢; Philadelphia 42¢; Boston 41 1/2¢.

Grain prices quoted May 26: No.1 dark northern Minneapolis $1.60 to $1.66. No.2 red winter Chicago $1.68 1/4 ; St. Louis $1.54 1/2. No.2 hard winter Chicago $1.68; No.1 hard winter St.Louis, $1.61. No.2 mixed corn Chicago 72 1/4¢. No.3 mixed corn Minneapolis 63 1/2¢. No.2 yellow corn Chicago 72¢; Minneapolis 69¢. No.3 yellow corn Chicago 69 1/2 to 72¢; St.Louis 71 1/2¢. No.3 white corn Chicago 71¢. No.3 white oats Chicago 41¢; St.Louis 41 1/2¢; Minneapolis 37 3/4¢.

Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets advanced 3 points closing at 17.94¢ per lb. New York July future contracts advanced 4 points, closing at 18.40¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

Industrials and Railroads

| Average closing price | May 26, | May 25, | May 26, 1925 |
|---|---|---|---|
| 20 Industrials | 141.64 | 141.20 | 128.43 |
| 20 R.R. stocks | 109.57 | 109.23 | 98.83 |

(Wall St. Jour., May 27.)

---

# DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XXI, No. 50 Section 1 May 28, 1926.

FARM RELIEF LEGISLATION

The press to-day says: "Farm relief legislation was discussed with President Collidge yesterday by Representative Andresen of Minnesota, who said afterward he was contemplating the introduction of a bill in the House, the details of which he had not shaped definitely."

The Republican and Democratic parties were called on yesterday by Senator McKellar to redeem their campaign pledges to the farmer by passing farm relief legislation, according to the press to-day.

---

MIGRATORY BIRD BILL

Failing to obtain unanimous consent to limitation of debate on the migratory bird bill, Senator Ashurst yesterday charged that a filibuster was on against legislation that is to follow, chief of which is farm relief. (Press, May 28.)

---

COTTON EXCHANGE TICKET

A New York dispatch to the press to-day states that an independent ticket favoring southern deliveries was placed in nomination yesterday on the New York Cotton Exchange in opposition to the regular ticket on which Samuel T. Hubbard, jr., was named for president. The new ticket, which is headed by Edward M. Weld, former president of the exchange, contains the names of four other former presidents of the Exchange. Nomination of an independent ticket, the first in years, resulted solely from the difference of opinion as to whether the exchange should adopt southern deliveries. The election will be held on June 7, when it is expected the vote will be divided entirely on this issue.

---

TEXAS POTASH FIND

A Cincinnati dispatch to the press to-day says: "Recent discovery of great potash deposits in 60,000 square miles of Texas will free our American agriculture from dependence on Europe for a vital necessity, asserted Dr. Henry Mace Payne, noted mining engineer of Washington, before the Coal Section of the American Mining Congress at Cincinnati May 27. The potash deposits of Texas look like white sand and are from 500 to 1,500 feet deep, said Doctor Payne. 'There must be Government aid in launching the new industry,' he added, 'and a bill has been introduced in Congress to appropriate money to drill and prove fields. When this field is developed we will not have to buy potash abroad.' Doctor Payne declared the mineral wealth of the South has as yet been virtually untouched and predicted that the coming years would see stupendous development of these minerals."

---

TARIFF ADMINISTRATION

Continuation of a system of flexible tariff rates, but with administration taken from the Tariff Commission and put in the hands of a separate flexible tariff or tariff adjustment board, is urged by the Chamber of Commerce of the United States. The position of the chamber, which speaks for more than 1,400 national and local business organizations, is set forth in a statement calling attention to the present Senate investigation of tariff administration. The Chamber would have the present Tariff Commission serve solely as a research body, and a new board created to fix rates, this board's decisions having the effect of law.

---

Section 2

Agricultural Legislation

An editorial in The Washington Post for May 27 says: "Before the National Association of Credit Men at New York, Secretary of Agriculture Jardine said: 'The defeat of the Haugen bill in the House last week has in nowise changed the agricultural situation nor the need for sound and reasonable assistance through legislation.' In a thoughtful and sensible address the Secretary of Agriculture reminded the people of the East that the agricultural situation in the West is still distressing, and that some thing should be done by Congress to remedy it. Agriculture has before it, says Mr. Jardine, a problem of efficiency in merchandising much like that which it faced in production. It is of national concern now that the distributive machinery of the country shall help to put the farmer on an equality with other groups of producers. Secretary Jardine commended thes thoughts to his eastern hearers: (1) The fact that agriculture has not been getting its fair share of the national income; (2) that this is not due to lack of efficiency in production; (3) that sound legislation to help in distribution will give agriculture an equitable place in the existing economic order. Undoubtedly agriculture is weak on its distributing side. Congress can help the farmers to organize for cooperation in marketing, but if the farmers fail to cooperate, no law can compel them to get together."

Agriculture at the Sesqui-Centennial

The Country Gentleman for June says: "The Philadelphia Centennial Exposition of 1876, celebrating the rounding of the first century of American independence, was the high-water mark of interest to the generation that visited it. Its wonders were a never exhausted subject of discussion for years after. Another great international exposition, the Sesqui-Centennial, celebrating a century and a half of American independence, is opening in Philadelphia on June first. It is aimed to be 'a visualization of the spiritual, scientific, economic, artistic and industrial progress that has been made in America and in the world during the fifty years that have elapsed since the Centennial of 1876.' Dedicated as the exposition is to the progress of mankind in the world's most wonderful half century, it is interesting to note the position assigned to agriculture. One of the three largest buildings, the Palace of Agriculture and Food Products, covering over eight and one-third acres and costing three-quarters of a million dollars, has been apportioned to it. This building will house exhibits of practically everything that seed and soil produce. The most modern methods of cultivation and preparation for market will be illustrated. And there will be not only extensive displays but demonstrations of the most modern farm machinery and equipment. But, just as the farmer's interest in his products no longer stops with their sale to the dealer, these displays likewise do not stop at a point midway to the consumer's table. A modern canning factory, a baking plant and a great variety of other processes along the route to the final user will be shown in full operation. And exhibits setting forth the proper selection and preparation of food products may be calculated to carry much needed instructions to city dwellers regarding quality things to eat. There will be, too, a number of important agricultural shows held during the exposition. One is the Livestock Show during the week of September 12-19, which is expected to bring to the exposition the pick of breeders' stock from this country and Canada. The prizes are generous, $50,000 being offered by the exposition, and this is expected to be increased to around $75,000 through additional awards offered by the various breed associations. It is predicted that entries to the Poultry Show, to be held the last week in October, will reach as high as 9,000 birds...."

Bread Weight Bill — The Brand bill to regulate the weight of bread was approved May 25 by the House agriculture committee. Patterned on an Ohio law, it would require that when shipped in interstate commerce bread must be in standard wheat loaves, weighing half a pound, one pound, one and one-half pounds, or whole multiples of one pound. Certain forms of bread, such as rye and raisin, would be exempt. (Press, May 27.)

Business Conditions — An editorial in Commerce and Finance for May 26 says: "In view of the existing widespread pessimism among many of our so-called 'forecasters' and business 'prophets' it is distinctly cheering to hear of one prominent economist who fails to see any fundamental reasons for this gloomy view, and who believes that the bearish prospects are being greatly exaggerated. This optimistic economist is Professor David Friday, formerly president of the Michigan Agricultural College, and he expressed his cheerful opinions in a recent speech entitled, 'How Long Will Prosperity Last?' Professor Friday believes that most of the present pessimism is based upon a certain vague assumption that we have passed the peak of a business cycle and that, because of this fact, the prosperity of the past two years must inevitably give way to a prolonged period of depression. This view, in the opinion of Professor Friday, is not justified by a close study of the actual business cycle. He thinks that business men in general and 'forecasters' in particular have still such an acute and painful memory of the 1921 depression that they are ready to predict disaster at the slightest let-up of our recent phenomenal prosperity.... Professor Friday says: 'I look for some recessions the latter part of the year in building and the automobile industry especially. In my opinion it will be a period of mild recession such as that of 1908, will cause no such violent convulsions as the depression of 1921, and will be of relatively short duration. Business men will, however, do well to face certain important facts in connection with the falling prices of commodities. In two years, perhaps 15 months, maybe earlier, the factor of foreign competition will enter; in a few years there will be a heavy downward movement of prices. But, inasmuch as this can be prepared for, it need not be dreaded. My optimism does not mean that we may expect a resumption of the bull movement in stocks; it merely means that I see no good reason why American business should not face the coming months with a great deal of confidence.'"

Iowa Conditions — An editorial in The Wall Street Journal for May 27 says: "In earlier days New England people used to meet difficult situations with the admonition, 'Count your mercies.' That practice has been revived to good purpose in a community which has been held up to the country as a veritable vale of tears. This was at a dinner in Des Moines, given to the Iowa State Press Association. A prominent Corn Belt personage whose political boom is being nursed was to be the chief speaker. His boom appears to be based on the woes of farmers, and the Iowa farmers in particular....One of the local speakers was a lawyer used to dealing with facts. Evidently in preparing for his speech he dug for facts and studying them was forced to the conclusion that Iowa is not broke; that the main trouble is a state of mind 'hardly worthy the State of Iowa.' Prefacing his speech with that statement he began to 'count the mercies.' In 1925 the 210,000 farms of Iowa produced crops and livestock worth $1,052,000,000, or an average of $5,000 a farm family. Capitalized at 5 per cent the gross would give every acre a value of $600. Factory output was worth $750,000,000 and the mines produced 5,000,000 tons of coal. As the gross income of the Nation in 1923 was $70,000,000,000 it is

evident from the figures given by the speaker that in 1925 Iowa's output was above the average percentage....Contrary to expectations there was no gloom dispensed, the counting of mercies was so true and logical that it would have been a hopeless effort."

Southern Conditions

David R. Coker, president of Coker's Pedigreed Seed Company, Hartsville, S.C., writes to Manufacturers Record for May 27 on agricultural conditions in the South. He says in part: "I would like to call your attention to the necessity of prompt constructive measures for the rehabilitation of agriculture and rural life in the older cotton States. A very cursory examination of the latest agricultural statistics for this section will reveal the fact that the proportion of homeowning farmers is decreasing and tenancy increasing; that the acreage in most of our standard crops has greatly decreased during the past five years (this being especially notable in the food and feed crops), and that there has been a heavy decrease in livestock. Anyone as familiar with Southern rural conditions as I am can point to many areas in which during the past 25 years there has been a very severe deterioration in crop production and rural civilization generally, and this condition is by no means exclusively the fault of the boll weevil. The increase of manufacturing in the South is in large part the result of the distressing farm conditions, for the manufacturers have been able to secure at reasonable prices abundant labor which was forced to leave the farm because of the miserable compensation from agriculture....My suggestion is that you put one of your best men on the problem of the decadence of rural civilization in the Old South, let him find out what the conditions are, and then let him recommend remedies. Let him go to such men as R.I. Manning, ex-Governor of South Carolina and chairman of the South Carolina Land Settlement Commission; W. W. Long, director of extension of Georgia, and particularly Hugh MacRae, who has made the only practical demonstration of successful rural development on a large scale that I know of in the Old South."

Tariff Commission and Agricultural Costs

The press of May 27 says: "An entirely new investigation into the costs of producing vegetable oils in this country and abroad is expected to be instituted by the Tariff Commission to determine the relative agricultural costs which enter into the production of cottonseed oil, soya bean oil and peanut oil....Tariff Commission officials point out considerable difficulty in proceeding with an investigation of the agricultural costs of these oils under the flexible provisions of the Tariff Act. In the first place, it is said, there is no principal competing country in the production of cottonseed, as about 80 per cent of the world supply is produced in this country. The objection, in the case of soya bean oil, is that no great quantities of the beans themselves are shipped to this country, most of the imports being the finished oil. Consequently, it is expected it would be difficult to find authorization under the Tariff Act for consideration of the costs of producing the raw materials from which the products under consideration are manufactured, when the raw materials themselves are not in competition. Commissioners believe that an investigation of comparative costs can well be made in the case of peanuts, as large quantities of peanuts, as such, are shipped to this country and are in our markets in competition with domestic peanuts."

Wheat Crops and Milling

An editorial in Modern Miller for May 22 says: "American milling can never reach a high degree of prosperity until the foundation, policies of large wheat crops and export flour trade can be commercially

coupled. Looking back, wise millers have followed false gods. Remember the millers' policy: 'Not One Bushel of Wheat for Export'? Well, this goal was never reached. To-day it is a lost hope. There are to-day advocates of decreased production of wheat, the worst policy that could be adopted. It means less production and less money for the farmer, the loss of export trade for the miller, less coal and less bags used by manufacturers, less tonnage for the railroads and the steamships, but some simps still believe in it. It is admission that some one lacks ability to sell the products of the fields. Of course they can not compete with moderate crops. They have no way of marketing the surplus and fear is expressed that farmers will grow too much wheat, although a big surplus sells and a little surplus stays at home to demoralize prices. Millers have never reached the decision to advocate and stress big wheat crops, surplus control and a real united action to expand markets abroad. If they suffer now, the ignoring of fundamentals of commerce may be the cause for blame."

## Section 3
## MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products May 27: Chicago hog prices closed at $14.40 for the top, bulk of sales $13.50 to $14.10; beef steers choice $9.90 to $10.50; heifers, good and choice, $7.65 to $10.10; cows, good and choice, $6.75 to $7.75; canner and cutter $3.85 to $5. Vealers, medium to choice, $9.50 to $13.75; heavy calves, medium to choice, $6.50 to $8.25; stocker and feeder steers, common to choice, $6.75 to $9; fat lambs medium to choice $13.50 to $16.25; yearling wethers, medium to choice, $10.50 to $14.75; fat ewes, common to choice, $4.50 to $7.75.

Florida Spaulding Rose potatoes continued to decline; closing sales ranged $9.25 to $10 per barrel, few low as $8.50 in New York City. South Carolina Irish Cobblers $8 to $8.50 in eastern cities; $8 to $8.25 f.o.b. Texas Yellow Bermuda onions slightly weaker at $1.50 to $2 per crate in consuming centers; $1.05 to $1.15 f.o.b. Strawberries generally lower. Maryland and Virginia various varieties mostly 13 to 18¢ quart basis in eastern cities. California Salmon Tint cantaloupes $1.50 to $2.50 lower at $3 to $4 per standard 45 in terminal markets; $1.50 to $1.75 f.o.b. El Centro.

Closing prices on 92 score butter: New York 41¢; Chicago 39 3/4¢; Philadelphia 42¢; Boston 41 1/2¢.

Grain prices quoted May 27: No.1 dark northern Minneapolis $1.57 to $1.63. No.2 red winter Chicago $1.63 1/2; St.Louis $1.54 1/2; Kansas City $1.51. No.2 hard winter Chicago $1.68 1/4; St.Louis $1.58 1/2; Kansas City $1.53 1/2. No.3 mixed corn Chicago 67 1/2¢; Minneapolis 63 1/2¢; Kansas City 68 1/2¢. No.2 yellow corn Chicago 71 3/4¢. No.3 yellow corn Chicago 69 1/2¢; St.Louis 70¢; Minneapolis 67¢; Kansas City 72 1/4¢. No.3 white corn Chicago 70 1/2¢; Kansas City 70¢. No.3 white oats Chicago 41¢; St.Louis 41 1/2¢; Minneapolis 37 1/2¢; Kansas City 41 1/2¢.

Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets advanced 1 point, closing at 17.95¢ per lb. New York July future contracts unchanged at 18.40¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

| Industrials and Railroads | Average closing price | May 27, | May 26, | May 27, 1925 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 20 Industrials | 142.43 | 141.64 | 129.13 |
| | 20 R.R. stocks | 109.89 | 109.57 | 99.53 |

(Wall St. Jour., May 29.)

- - -

# DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XXI, No. 51 Section 1 May 29, 1926.

MIGRATORY BIRD BILL The press to-day reports: "Wearied of the several weeks' discussion on the Migratory Bird bill, a group of Senators started a move late yesterday to invoke the seldom-used Senate rule limiting debate to an hour for each Senator. The petition for cloture was circulated after reneved efforts to obtain an agreement for a vote next Tuesday had failed. Eighteen Senators signed the petition, which was circulated by Senator McKellar, and which may be presented Tuesday unless an agreement for a vote is reached meantime. After the whole day had been devoted to discussion of the bird bill, Senator Heflin urged that the Senate proceed to more important measures. He listed farm relief legislation and the Federal Aid Road bill."

---

ONION INVESTIGATION ASKED Senator Gooding yesterday submitted a resolution requesting the Tariff Commission to investigate the cost of production of onions in the United States and the principal competing foreign countries. (Press, May 29.)

---

WORLD CROP CENSUS The press to-day reports: "Plans for a census of the agricultural resources of the world were adopted at the eighth conference of the International Institute of Agriculture, held at Rome recently, according to Louis J. Taber, Master of the National Grange and American delegate to the conference, who returned yesterday morning. Mr. Taber said that the census would be taken in 1930, and would include the production and acreage of all the principal agricultural products of the world. 'The reason we have to wait until 1930,' he said, 'is that, while in this country and England, such surveys have been made at regular intervals for the last century, certain of the sixty-two countries which belong to the institute have never made a survey. They have to be shown what to do. When we have finished we will have a very accurate idea of what the world's resources for food supply amount to. We will know just what we can count on in time of need.' Another thing decided upon by the conference was to make a careful study of the marketing and production end of farm problems, Mr. Taber said. It also was decided to make the character of the institute, which was founded in 1906 by David Lubin, an American, more international in personnel and in its work.

"After leaving the conference, Mr. Taber made a study of farm conditions in France, Italy, Switzerland, Germany, Denmark, Belgium, England and Holland. 'The European farmer is regaining confidence, and what is more important, he is working,' he said. 'He will soon be where he was before the war.' According to Mr. Taber, Denmark, although a small country, was far in the lead agriculturally. 'The Danish farmer has prosperity and high standards,' he said, 'but what is particularly impressive is his cooperative marketing. The marketing associations frequently return 60 to 70 per cent of what the English consumer pays for butter, eggs and bacon to the farmer himself. The American farmer who gets 50 per cent is lucky.'"

---

Section 2

Agricultural Policy

L. J. Taber, Worthy Master, National Grange, is the author of an extensive article entitled "Our Future Agricultural Policy," in The Country Gentleman for June. Mr. Taber says in part: "Who is looking ahead and planning for the future of agriculture in the same way that business and industry are looking and planning? The answer is that but little is being done. There is to-day no well-defined agricultural policy that looks any distance into the future. Here and there one can find a farsighted economist, scientist or leader who is searching to find a program for the future upon which the farmers of the Nation can unite. But the number is small. Yet agriculture, its leaders and educators, must have the courage to look into the future and base their program with that future in mind. This is especially true of rural organizations. The farm organization or group that builds its whole program on solving the farmer's present-day problems alone will likely pass out of existence before the ink is dry, figuratively, on some of the many resolutions that are being passed...Sound business methods, rather than politicians and legislation, will play the most important part in any future agricultural policy. The biggest problem for agricultural leaders is the development of this sound policy, sufficiently comprehensive, sufficiently national in its scope, to inspire the American farmer to believe that this pathway leads to better things. From the standpoint of the part the farmer must himself play in developing this future program, the burning need is greater teamwork in the organizations we have. We have been having a Grange program, a Farm Bureau program, a Farmers' Union program, a cooperative-marketing program, and so on, until the Nation is bewildered trying to determine just what it is that American agriculture wants. Agriculture needs a million new members in these organizations more than a thousand pages of new laws."

Bird Conservation

An editorial in Hunter-Trader-Trapper for June says: "The Federation of Bird Clubs of New England is a conservation organization which is performing a real and valuable service in the cause of wild life preservation. The federation numbers, in its governing body, some of the leading conservationists of the New England States who are directing its efforts along practical and constructive lines. It embraces public officials, scientists, ornithologists, Audubon societies and various bird clubs, and works in harmony and cooperation with the sportsmen. One of its recent accomplishments is the securing of Egg Rock in Lynn Harbor for a bird sanctuary. It proposes to protect the terns on their breeding grounds along the coast this year and hereafter, and to work with sportsmen for the preservation of all wild life, especially birds. When all groups and organizations working along similar lines sit down together and combine their efforts, instead of working independently and at cross purposes, results will multiply."

Canadian Wheat Pool

Discussing the present size and power and the outlook for the Canadian wheat pool, Canada Week by Week, issued by the Canadian Government Information Bureau, says: "The farmers in less than three years have established the largest cooperative organization of its kind in the world. The Canadian wheat pool, with its three units in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, now has a total membership of 125,000 farmers, controlling 13,230,000 of the 21,000,000 acres sown to wheat last year in the three Prairie Provinces. It is handling the sale of the greater part of the wheat production of Canada. The largest proportion of the wheat is sold by a central selling agency to importers and buyers in different countries

of the world, for the agency has direct selling connections with every wheat importing country and its own representatives in fifty-one ports of the world. The funds which accrue from the sales are disbursed to the members of the three pools. This method of handling wheat provides a large volume through one agency and reduces the cost of operation to a minimum...."

Cotton Spinners Ask Aid

An appeal to Secretary Hoover to give his personal assistance and that of the Department of Commerce in solving the problems of the cotton spinning industry of the United States will be made by a committee of the American Textile Manufacturers' Association, which will call upon him next Tuesday. Mr. Hoover is of the opinion that some such plan as has been worked out in the wool industries is being contemplated by the cotton men. Either a "utilization committee" for the textile trade or an institute of research and statistical information he believes will probably be proposed as a basis for further work. Leaders in the cotton spinning industry have felt that no adequate method of gathering and disseminating information concerning day to day developments in the industry and trade exists. (Press, May 28.)

Forestry in Florida

An editorial in The Florida Times-Union for May 25 says: "Forest conservation and reforestation in Florida was the object and purpose of the meeting held in Jacksonville last Thursday, when definite steps were taken for protecting and promoting the great forest and timber industry of this State....The primary object of the meeting here referred to was--'the co-ordination of the efforts of all interested organizations and men to bring about the passage of a forestry bill at the 1927 session of the Florida legislature.' In the bill to be drafted the essential details, as presented in the meeting, provided for the creation of a State department of forestry, important enough to warrant establishment; providing, also, for county cooperation, and for an appropriation of $25,000 to conduct the work of the proposed department.....This has the appearance of a very good beginning of this important work, however simple are the initial plans, as outlined. Their very simplicity encourages hope that there will be State-wide interest and cooperation."

Motor Vehicle Accidents

Definite progress toward reducing the number of motor vehicle accidents and a marked improvement in the methods of handling the city traffic problem were noted by Col. A. B. Barber, manager of the transportation and communications department of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States, in an address at Wilmington, Del., May 28 before the Delaware Safety Council. Colonel Barber, who served as director of the National Conference on Street and Highway Safety, attributed this change, in a large measure, to the Nation-wide safety campaign being carried on by various groups interested in traffic safety. Colonel Barber said the figures for the first three months of this year show a material reduction in the actual number of motor vehicle accidents as compared with the corresponding period a year ago. This decrease, he declared, was the first that has been recorded since the automobile has become a great source of hazard on the streets and highways of the country. "The returns", he said, "are necessarily incomplete, but the estimate of the reduction range from 4 to 15 per cent as compared with last year. This means that there were nearly 600 fewer automobile fatalities in the United States in the first three months of 1926 than in the corresponding period of 1925. Colonel Barber advocated the adoption by all the States of the Model Vehicle Code proposed by the National Conference on Street and Highway Safety. This,

he said, would bring about uniform traffic laws, and would be helpful in reducing the number of automobile accidents.

Peppermint Oil

Commerce Monthly (New York) for June contains a comprehensive article on the peppermint oil market. This says in part: "As a result of two short crops in succession peppermint oil, a volatile oil used in menthol manufacture, in perfumery and as a basis for flavoring, has been selling at abnormally high prices during the 1925-26 crop year. From 300,000 to 350,000 pounds were produced in 1924, and the 1925 crop is estimated at 250,000 to 300,000 pounds, about half the yield expected on the basis of acreage planted. As normal consumption in the United States is placed at 400,000 pounds annually, this meant a deficit in both years. The area planted to peppermint in 1925 greatly exceeded that of 1924, following overproduction in 1922 and 1923. But high winds in spring, a killing frost at the end of May and drought substantially cut the yield. By the time new oil came on the market stocks were negligible as most of the small carryover from the reduced 1924 crop had been used in the manufacture of menthol. For some time last fall the leading factors in the peppermint-oil trade remained out of the market, believing that the arrival of the new crop would bring down the price of oil, then about $16 a pound, about four times the normal price prevailing in July, 1924....Following this, peppermint-oil prices began to ascend in an amazing manner, going from $19 the first of November to $31 before the end of the month. A dearth of orders in recent months sharply reduced the high level prevailing at the end of 1925, and by the middle of May the price was $15. About half of the world's peppermint oil is produced in the United States. The industry is centered in Michigan and Indiana, although small quantities are grown in Oregon and elsewhere. Peppermint cultivation is a highly specialized industry, involving soil drainage and expensive equipment for distillation and a high labor charge in raising the crop. Owing to these conditions, the industry is controlled by a few large operators. Japan is the second most important source of peppermint oil and England, France, Germany and Russia contribute most of the remainder. The American and English oil is preferred for flavoring and the Japanese for menthol production, because it contains a higher proportion of menthol....The supply of peppermint oil on hand is scarcely adequate, even with demand cut down to the minimum. Japanese corn-mint oil is the most available supplement, but the Department of Agriculture's ruling forbids its use in pharmaceutical formulas approved by the United States Pharmacopoeia without proper labeling. The department holds that Japanese mint oil is not true peppermint oil and it is not so recognized outside of Japan."

Redwood Forest Conservation

An editorial in National Sportsman for June says: "A great Redwood Forest Reservation is planned by the Save-The-Redwoods League, of California. Most of this gigantic age-old timber is owned by the Pacific Lumber Company, which, in cooperation with the league, is endeavoring to determine its proper valuation. This project should receive the hearty good-will of all men whose interest is in the outdoors....It is with noble purpose that the Save-The-Redwoods League is carrying on in its work, calculated to preserve the forest--this epic forest in California, for they know that to sacrifice these masterpieces that have taken forty generations to complete would be comparable to wrecking the cathedrals of the old world, and selling them for junk. It is hoped that the wholehearted support of the entire country will assist the league in carrying on redwood reservations."

Wool in Portland

A Portland, Ore., dispatch to the press of May 24 says: "Prospects are favorable for a larger accumulation of wool in Portland this year than in previous seasons. The new clip has been arriving steadily since shearing began, growers of eastern Oregon and central and eastern Washington and western Idaho forwarding their clips here for storage until sold."

---

Section 3

MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

May 28: Chicago hog prices closed at $14.35 for the top, bulk of sales $13.25 to $13.75; beef steers heifers, good and choice, $7.75 to $10.10; cows, good and choice, $6.75 to $7.75; canner and cutter $3.75 to $4.90. Vealers, medium to choice, $9.50 to $13.75; heavy calves, medium to choice, $6.50 to $8.25; stocker and feeder steers common to choice $6.75 to $9; fat lambs medium to choice, $14 to $16.75; yearling wethers, medium to choice $11 to $15.25; fat ewes, common to choice, $4.50 to $7.75.

Potato prices continued to decline. Florida Spaulding Rose ranged $9.25 to $10.25 per barrel in eastern cities. South Carolina Irish Cobblers $8.50 to $9.50. Texas Yellow Bermuda onions nearly steady at $1.50 to $2 per crate in consuming centers. Strawberries generally weaker. Virginia and Maryland various varieties 15 to 22¢ quart basis in the East. Arkansas and Tennessee Klondikes $4 to $5.50 per 24-quart crate in midwestern cities. California Salmon Tints cantaloupes weak at $2.75 to $3.50 per standard 45 in distributing centers; $1.50 to $1.75 f.o.b. El Centro.

Closing prices on 92 score butter: New York 41¢; Philadelphia 42¢; Chicago 39 1/4¢; Boston 41 1/2¢.

Grain prices quoted May 28: No.1 dark northern Minneapolis $1.56 to $1.64. No.2 red winter St.Louis $1.54; Kansas City $1.48 1/2. No.2 hard winter St.Louis $1.58; Kansas City $1.47 to $1.51. No.3 mixed corn Minneapolis 63 1/2¢; Kansas City 69¢. No.3 yellow corn St.Louis 70¢; Minneapolis 67¢; Kansas City 70 3/4¢. No.3 white corn Kansas City 69 1/4¢. No.3 white oats St. Louis 41 3/4¢; Minneapolis 37 1/4¢; Kansas City 40¢.

Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets was unchanged, closing at 17.95¢ per lb. New York July future contracts unchanged at 18.40¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

Industrials and Railroads

| Average closing price | May 28, | May 27, | May 28, 1925 |
|---|---|---|---|
| 20 Industrials | 143.43 | 142.43 | 129.60 |
| 20 R.R. stocks | 110.23 | 109.89 | 99.26 |

(Wall St. Jour., May 29.)

---

- - -

# DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XXI, No. 52 Section 1 June 1, 1926.

IN CONGRESS

Senator McKellar charged in debate May 29 that Senator Norbeck, in charge of the migratory bird bill, was permitting that measure to be "used as a cat's paw to delay other legislation." Senator McNary gave notice that if the bird bill was not disposed of early this week he would move to displace it by calling up his farm relief bill. (Press, May 31.)

A farm price stabilization bill, reviving the Haugen measure with modifications, was urged before the House agricultural committee May 30 by Representative McLaughlin of Nebraska, according to the press of May 31.

---

FARM SCHOOL CONFERENCE OPENS

The New York Times to-day reports: "The National Farm School Conference will open to-morrow at New York with an address by R. W. Dunlap, Assistant Secretary of Agriculture, who will extend greetings on behalf of Secretary Jardine to agriculturists from all parts of the country, including the special appointees of thirty-five State Governors and fifty Mayors. The purpose of the conference, as outlined in preliminary announcements, is 'to impart an impetus to the back-to-the-soil movement, by giving city boys and girls the requisite scientific agricultural education to make them expert farmers and instil in them a love of the soil.' The sessions will be open to the public. Senator Arthur capper of Kansas, who has expressed keen interest in the idea for which the National Farm School-located at Doylestown, Pa.--stands, will be honorary chaiman of the conference. Special attention will be devoted to expanding the facilities of the school, which now offers a three-year course on a non-sectarian basis to youths interested in farming. ~~At 10:30 o'clock in the morning the Emergency Committee of the~~ ..... The following also are scheduled to speak: Dr. H. H. Knapp, Director of the New York State Institute of Applied Agriculture; Joseph P. Cox, Professor of Farm Crops at Michigan State College; Dr. Joseph A. Hill, Assistant Director of the Bureau of Census; Jewell Mayes, Secretary of the Missouri State Board of Agriculture; Harrison Fahrnkopf, President of the Illinois State Association of Farm Advisers. ....."

---

WOOL GROWERS FORM ASSOCIATION

A Richmond, Va., dispatch to the press of June 1 says: "Formation of the Eastern Wool Growers Association, Inc., with headquarters at Baltimore and including nearly 1,000 members of the Virginia Cooperative Sheep and Wool Growers Association, Inc., was announced at Richmond, May 31, by K. A. Keithly, secretary of the Virginia association. The new organization also includes members of the sheep and wool growers associations of West Virginia and Maryland who with the Virginia growers will market more than 500,000 pounds of wool through the central organization this year."

---

Section 2

Agricultural Subsidy — An editorial in The American Review of Reviews for June says: "To subsidize the English coal industry, while preparing to reorganize it, is a very different thing from subsidizing American agriculture by any of the more ambitious proposals that have been pending at Washington. But some analogies might suggest themselves. The coal industry is fundamental to the economic life of Great Britain. That country has built up its manufactures; and its agriculture, while important, is at present relatively negligible. In the United States, the maintenance of agricultural prosperity on normal lines is the most vital of all our economic concerns. Mr. Harger, than whom no man in the West better understands all that relates to the production and marketing of crops, and to the financial aspects of agriculture, gives our readers in this number of the Review of Reviews the most definite statement that has yet been made about the failure of western banks in consequence of the recent period of sharp depression in crop prices. He takes a cheerful view, finding that the pendulum is swinging back, and that the great States West of the Mississippi are working their way out of the tragic disasters to which they were subjected three or four years ago.."

Business Conditions — The National City Bank of New York, in its review for June 1 says: "Trade and industry continued at high levels through the month of May, and while some uncertainty prevails as to the probable trend in the last half of the year, no tangible justification for pessimism has yet appeared. Not everyone is satisfied with the volume or the profitableness of his business, but some of these complaints have to be discounted, as it has been shown time and time again that even in the best of years there is always someone who either is not, or thinks he is not, getting as much business as the rest. It is true that not all lines are showing as uniform improvement as was the case a few months ago, and some industries give definite signs that production has run ahead of consumption. Already this has necessitated some slowing up in various lines, and doubtless further readjustment may occur before the balance is everywhere restored. Buying, however, has been generally conservative, and in view of the absence in most quarters of burdensome stocks, and the promise of continued ease in money, there seems no reason why whatever further readjustment is needed should not take place without undue disturbance. The way in which the Florida boom has quietly flattened out without serious consequences is a reassuring demonstration of the influence of an easy credit situation in facilitating orderly liquidation. Taking business as a whole the figures show that the country is actively engaged, and what is more, that most people are making money. ..."

Canada and Butter — An editorial in The Washington Post for May 29 says: "Perhaps there may be an object lesson to the United States in the action of the Canadian Government in imposing an import tariff against dumping from Australia. The new law applies to butter, canned fruit and apricots. Butter coming into Canada from Australia is subject to a dumping duty of 6 cents a pound. Australia has granted an export bounty of the same amount. The ordinary duty on butter coming into Canada

from Australia is 1 cent a pound. The duty on American butter entering Canada is 4 cents a pound. Thus Canada will discriminate against one of the British dominions to the extent of 3 cents a pound in favor of the United States. Under a recent proclamation of the President, the duty on imported butter entering the United States is now 12 cents a pound. The law provides that if a bounty is paid by any foreign government on commodities entering the United States, a duty equal to the bounty shall be imposed. Australian butter, therefore, could be made to pay 18 cents a pound for the privilege of competing with home-made butter in this market."

Crops and Prosperity

An editorial in The Country Gentleman for June says: ". . .The first half of the year has been one of great business activity. At the time this is written, early in the beginning of the second quarter of the year, building continues at high tide, railway freight loadings are still breaking records, the steel mills are operating at capacity, the automobile industry is turning out a record volume of new cars, the farm-implement industry was never busier on both foreign and domestic orders. How about the second half of the Year? This is not so easy to forecast. Starting early in January commodity prices have steadily declined. More 'for rent' signs are appearing in windows; investors are beginning to look coldly on building bonds; our foreign trade balance is less favorable. But the big uncertain factor is the harvests--and these depend upon the vagaries of the weather. Only a few definite facts are now discernible. Wheat growers in Texas, Oklahoma and Kansas are reasonably sure of a satisfactory market if they rush their grain to market immediately after threshing. There is a small world carry-over and prices should remain fairly steady until the fate of the spring wheat crop is known. The range country is feeling optimistic again. Prices are satisfactory and promise to remain so for several years. Hogs may be lower next fall than the past spring, but it will be at least another year before the industry reaches the bottom of the cycle. Corn and cotton are two crops about which it is idle to speculate this early in the season. The acreage of both is high and both have a large carry-over from last year. Another bumper crop of both would probably depress prices, but of the two the cotton farmers would suffer more. Corn growers with cattle or hogs to feed--and there are many such farmers--should do fairly well even with heavy yields. The markets for dairy and poultry products and for fruits and vegetables are affected by industrial earnings and urban prosperity. There is no likelihood that wages will decrease or that there will be much unemployment. The farm market should work into a stronger position as the industrial market recedes and the struggle for business becomes keener. Equality for agriculture through the natural working of economic laws is approaching rapidly. The farm market now for the first time in years assumes a position of real importance. Even if farm earnings are no better than last year--and there is nothing to indicate they will not be--farmers will have more money to spend for better living than they have had in several years. Last year they paid up practically all open book accounts remaining from previous seasons. There will be very little dead horse to pay for this fall and winter. The farm market bids fair to be the most active market for the remainder of the year."

Migratory Bird Legislation

Clinton W. Gilbert, in his "Daily Mirror of Washington" May 29 says: "Bills to establish Federal regulation do not fare well in Congress since Federal prohibition made a great many persons unhappy and since the Child Labor Amendment to the Constitution was rejected by the States. The Migratory Bird Bill, which provided that every one hunting birds must take out a Federal license and that Federal game wardens should see to it that no one took a shot at a bird without paying his dollar to a bureau in Washington, was the latest measure 'to hire some additional Government sneaks and to interfere with the rights and privileges of States to regulate their own business,' as Jim Reed called it, to encounter the present opposition to doing everything from Washington. This was a well-meant measure to do by legislation what, after all, only can be done by education. Jim Reed made merry with the constitutional phases of the bill. Probably there ought to be bird sanctuaries, not one, but a good many of them. But why not let the States establish them? Or if the States will not do it alone, why not with the aid of persons interested in the preservation of bird life? The reason for all such measures is that Washington is the easiest way. With one measure the whole country can be reached. You don't have to bother with forty-eight State Legislatures"

Milk Monopoly Charged

The New York Times of May 29 reports: "The charge that the Borden's Farm Products Company and the Sheffield Farms Company with the aid of the Dairymen's League Cooperative Association and the Sheffield Farm Producers' Association have what amounts to a monopoly of the milk business in New York City was made May 28 by the Queens County Grand Jury in a presentment submitted to County Judge Frank F. Adel in Long Island City. The Grand Jury, which has been investigating alleged graft in milk distribution in Queens under the direction of District Attorney Richard S. Newcombe, directed that copies of the presentment be sent to Governor Smith, Mayor Walker, the presiding officers of both houses of the State Legislature and the Secretary of Agriculture at Washington. In the course of its inquiry the Grand Jury indicted Thomas J. Clougher, former secretary to Dr. Frank J. Monaghan, when the latter was Health Commissioner, on the charge of accepting a bribe, and Harry Danziger, the so-called 'milk czar,' with having given a bribe."

---

Section 3

Department of Agriculture

An editorial in The Florists Exchange for May 29 says: "While the ultimate effect on the bulb trade of the present narcissus quarantine policy has yet to be revealed, the effect of the last two years' discussion on the general public is readily discernible. Primarily it has been an increase of interest in the bulbs and their blooms and a logical corresponding increase in the desire for them. Insofar as the cost of the available supplies is kept within reasonable limits, this growing demand is wholly advantageous and welcome....A secondary effect has been an unprecedented watchfulness on the part of the press for developments in the plant quarantine field. The control by the Government of the activities of plantsmen and gardeners has become news; the objective of careful attention and editorial comment. And the more closely this control becomes associated with or comparable to other larger activities of civic, economic, political and international character, the richer in news interest it becomes. Naturally, then, the news of the hearing scheduled for June 2

to consider a quarantine affecting the interstate movement of bulbs, has created a new ripple of excitement even beyond the boundaries of commercial and professional horticulture.....Anyone interested is invited to attend, and it is suggested that whether they can contribute helpful facts to the discussion or merely sit and listen in, all who can get to the hearing will find it of interest. To those who are, or contemplate, raising narcissus bulbs commercially it may mean considerably more in the way of guidance as to their future activities."

---

Section 4

MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products For the week ended May 29: Hay market irregular, averaging barely steady. Missouri River Markets easier. Offerings most other points hardly equal to trade needs and prices steady. More alfalfa at Kansas City. Timothy steady. Quoted May 29: No. 1 timothy - Boston $27.50; New York $29.50; Pittsburgh $27.50; Cincinnati $27.50; Chicago $25; St.Louis $26.50; Kansas City $24. No. 1 alfalfa - Kansas City $22.50 No. 1 prairie - Kansas City $18.50; Omaha $18.75; Chicago $22; St. Louis $20.50; Minneapolis $15.50

Grain market irregularly lower. Wheat futures slightly higher than last week but liberal receipts reducing cash premiums. Soft wheat especially weak and selling lower than hard wheat some markets. New crop being harvested in southern Texas. Corn futures practically same as week ago but increased receipts weakening cash prices. Fair amounts of corn being shipped to Pacific Coast and some exported to Mexico. Oats prices again easier.

Butter markets steady most of the week ending May 29 were slightly weaker again at the close. Sentiment was nervous although storage holdings continued to increase fairly rapidly. Production continues to show increases, but the slight backwardness of the season has resulted in the margin over last year being less than it was. Closing prices on 92 score; New York 41¢; Chicago 39 1/4¢; Philadelphia 42¢; Boston 41 1/2¢;

Cheese markets were also steady with prices at the cheese boards meetings of May 27 unchanged throughout. Trade was moderately active and supplies did not show any material accumulation. Wholesale prices at Wisconsin primary markets May 28: Single Daisies 19 1/4¢.

Potato prices continued to decline. Florida Spaulding Rose sold at a range of $8.50 to $10.25 per barrel. South Carolina Irish Cobblers mostly $8 to $9 in eastern cities; $6.75 to $7.75 f.o.b. Charleston. Texas Yellow Bermuda onions fairly steady at $1.60 to $2 per crate in consuming centers. Cantaloupes declined sharply. California Salmon Tints sold at a range of $3 to $3.75 per standard 45 in terminal markets; $1.65 to $1.75 f.o.b. El Centro. Strawberries firm. Virginia and Maryland various varieties closed at 12¢ to 25¢ quart basis in the East.

(No livestock or cotton reports on account of holiday.)

---

# DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XXI, No. 53 Section 1 June 2, 1926.

FARM RELIEF LEGISLATION The Associated Press to-day reports: "Abandoning, temporarily at least, the long-pending migratory bird bill, the Senate yesterday voted to make farm relief legislation its unfinished business and then agreed unanimously to lay it aside and dispose of the Army Air Service expansion measure..... The bird bill, which would authorize the establishment of game refuges and shooting grounds to be paid for out of license fees charged hunters, was not allowed to go by the board without a struggle. ..... With the bird bill out of the way, Senator McNary asked unanimous consent that the farm bill--the administration cooperative marketing and the corn-belt measure combined--be made the unfinished business. ...."

---

COTTON EXCHANGE YEAR A New York dispatch to-day says: "More than half a million bales of the world's largest cotton crop were delivered on New York Cotton Exchange contract during the last year, President Richard T. Harriss pointed out in the annual report of the Exchange yesterday. The report called attention to the addition of a traffic department in the machinery of the Exchange to secure storage-in-transit privileges for the cotton going to New England and European ports."

---

THE SECRETARY'S NEW YORK ADDRESS E. C. Stone, writing in The Washington Star of May 31, says: "There were three outstanding features at the annual convention of the National Association of Credit Men, according to the Washington delegates who have returned from New York, these high spots being the presentation to the association of the pen which President Coolidge used in signing the new bankruptcy law, the speech of Secretary Jardine and the address of Sir Esme Howard. ..... Secretary Jardine in his address went over the whole farm problem in a masterly manner, the convention being greatly impressed with the facts as he presented them. The speech of Sir Esme Howard was made before the foreign credit department of the association and proved to be most enlightening and interesting. These two distinguished men from Washington brightened up a program that in many places included discussions that were important but not particularly exciting. ..."

---

WISCONSIN TO PUSH BACON PRODUCTION A Milwaukee dispatch to the press to-day says: "Plans have been laid for a far-reaching campaign to make Wisconsin the center for a great national bacon industry as an addition to the dairy supremacy of the State. Those who are backing the move say that the new industry should rival the famous bacon hogs of Denmark and other famed bacon production centers of the world. The Wisconsin College of Agriculture is promoting the project and will be assisted by the leading packers of this section of the country and livestock breeder associations. The new organization is known as the Wisconsin Livestock Improvement Council, with M. F. Cudahy, Milwaukee packer, as president. ..."

---

Section 2

Cotton and Rayon

Theodore Wood is the author of a comprehensive article on rayon in The American Review of Reviews for June. He says in part: "The statement is frequently heard that the present depression in the cotton industry is due in a large measure to the increased use of rayon. In the opinion of the writer, this is not true. The amount of rayon produced in 1925 was only 1½ per cent of the poundage of cotton consumed. The two principal reasons why cotton mills have been hard pressed to make ends meet recently are the expansion in the industry itself between the years 1911 and 1924, and the swing of fashion which has decreed fewer and lighter garments for women. Let us see the figures. In 1911 there were in the United States, in round numbers, 30 million spindles in cotton mills; in 1924 there were 37 million, an increase of 23.3 per cent. The population in 1911 was 94 million; in 1924 it was 112 million, an increase of 19.1 per cent. The increase in spindles is slightly out of proportion, but this is not all. While the increase in spindles was 23.3 per cent for the period, the increase in cotton consumption was 31 per cent."

Dairy Outlook

An editorial in Chicago Dairy Produce for May 25 says: "...A survey of the situation by the Blue Valley Institute covers prospects for the year, and arrives at the conclusion that production may be less, because of the reduced number of dairy cows, unless farmers are more liberal with grain during the barn feeding season. The weather will be the deciding factor in summer production. The survey holds that we are in no danger of foreign competition because of our 12c tariff on butter, and that the good consumptive demand will continue if there is no lessening of our industrial activity. ..... Any forecast necessarily has so many ifs that it is valuable only as a guide, allowances being made as difference appear in the deciding factor."

Dairy Products in Minnesota

An editorial in The Washington Post for June 1 says: "There was a meeting of the butter men of Minnesota in Minneapolis last week, when they entertained their fellow laborers in the barnyards of the farms from Wisconsin. These butter men of Minnesota are manufacturers and producers of the raw material which makes creameries possible. .... Minnesota and Wisconsin farmers have done more within the last twenty years to settle the agricultural problem than has been accomplished in any other section, not forgetting Iowa and Illinois. At the Minneapolis meeting the Wisconsin visitors learned that the May butter sales of the Minnesota association will total 9,000,000 pounds, and that during April there was paid to the farmers of the State $3,115,400 for the 7,891,000 pounds of butter which the association handled. During the first five months of this year the total amount handled, 38,800,000 pounds, exceeded the business of the same period of the preceding year by 7,000,000 pounds. ....."

Farm Exodus in France

An editorial in The Washington Post for May 29 says: "The United States is not the only country in which the drift of the population is toward the cities and towns and away from the farms. France is feeling the effect of the call of the city upon its agricultural population. M. Henri Michel, who has been engaged for some time upon a survey of the rural situation in the republic, finds that the farms of France are being rapidly depopulated, and that the acreage under cultivation and the amount of livestock have diminished during the last ten years. ..... M. Michel, like some American statesmen, wants Parliament to do something to improve the conditions of the French agriculturist, but he naively says: 'Unfortunately Parliament hardly rushes business of which it should attend to. Parliament makes speeches.' Wherein the French chamber bears a remarkable resemblance to some of the legislative bodies on this side of the Atlantic."

Irish Farmers Oppose Tariff

A Dublin dispatch to the press of May 29 says: "After prolonged vacillation the Irish farmers have declared emphatically against protection in any form. Even the bait of protection for their own particular products has failed to wean them from their belief in free trade. They hold that whatever benefits they might obtain from tariffs on imported agricultural produce would be more than counterbalanced by the burden resulting from the higher prices of protected manufactured goods. But a still more potent consideration in leading them to their decision was a determination that nothing should be allowed to interfere with the free entrance of Irish agricultural produce into Great Britain. ....."

Irrigation

The press of May 31 says: "The Interior Department May 29 suggested that the North Platte Water Users Association take over on July 1 for operation its reclamation project, six months ahead of the time named in a contract. The association's Washington representative, James T. Whitehead, has urged acceptance. The Reclamation Bureau will not demand any notes or cash payments, he explained. The North Platte Valley project is located in Western Nebraska and Eastern Wyoming."

A Scotts Bluff, Neb., dispatch says: "Control of the North Platte Valley Government irrigation project by the North Platte Valley Water Users' Association, as suggested by the Interior Department, probably would depend on a vote of more than 1,300 members of the association, B. J. Seger, association secretary, said May 29. Mr. Seger, who has been a leader in the fight of the valley farmers to have water from the project turned on valley farmlands before delinquent production and maintenance charges are paid to the Government, said full responsibility had been placed in the association's Washington representatives, Congressman Robert Simmons and James P. Whitehead. He said he was certain, however, the association officials would not care to act on any such proposal until after the general sentiment of the farmers had been learned through a mass meeting or referendum. ...."

Milk Standard An editorial in The Washington Post for May 29 says: "At a conference between the State and Territorial health officers and the United States Public Health Service, a uniform milk standard ordinance for the United States, which is now being used in eight States, was indorsed. A committee appointed last year reports that a uniform standard is necessary in order to increase the general level of milk quality and safety. From three States which have already applied the standard ordinance come favorable and satisfactory reports. The ordinance where tried has not only improved the sanitation of the milk, but has resulted in increased production. This plan has been indorsed by the dairy interests, resulting in better butter and greater satisfaction to consumers. The plan is needed in the smaller cities, where the methods of milk control have not advanced as far as in the large cities."

New York Milk Situation The New York Times for June 1 states that one hundred health officers from cities and towns within a radius of seventy-five miles of New York have been invited to come to New York next Friday to confer with Health Commissioner Harris and discuss plans for concerted action by health authorities in the metropolitan area against dealers in bootleg milk. Commissioner Harris said that he purposed to make New York City a clearing house for the smaller surrounding towns which are financially unable to inspect the milk area, and that in return for this service he believes the small towns will aid the city authorities in exposing avenues of approach used by bootleg milk dealers in bringing their products to New York.

Production Production in basic industries, according to the Federal Reserve Board's index, decreased 1 per cent in April, slight increases in production of lumber and pig iron being more than offset by declines in output in other industries. Particularly large recessions were shown in the production of steel ingots and in textile mill activity. Automobile production, not included in the index, continued in large volume. Factory employment and pay rolls declined slightly in April, particularly in the food, tobacco, textile, and boot and shoe industries. The value of building contracts awarded during April was smaller than in March and practically the same as in April of last year. Awards for the first two weeks in May, however, showed increases as compared with the same week in 1925.

Weight and Measure Standards The need of simplicity in weights and measures was stressed by Secretary of Commerce Hoover at the nineteenth national conference on weights and measures at the Bureau of Standards May 27. The rapidly growing complexity of the everyday transactions of life, Secretary Hoover said, presents simplification as a new problem facing weights and measures officials. The ramifications of the Oregon egg law in which the sale of "fresh eggs" which do not conform to the standards of freshness is forbidden, and that makes complete provision for the protection of the public against bad eggs, was presented by William A. Dalziel, deputy sealer of weights and measures of Oregon. The law is getting results, he reported. A paper presented by H. L.Flurry, newly appointed deputy superintendent of weights and measures of Alabama, caused a sensation because of the conditions it revealed in that State. Bad weigh ing, he declared, is costing the cotton farmers millions of dollars annually. He showed some of the tricks the ginners use, and other common legerdemain in cotton weighing. (Press, May 28,)

Wool Market The Commercial Bulletin (Boston) of May 29 says: "Demand for wool continues slow and prices are barely firm. Every branch of the wool textile industry is following very closely the move of the man higher up and extreme caution prevails. It is hoped that the repeat orders for goods may presently come along in better volume, however. There is rather more export trade, chiefly for cape wools. London opening Tuesday is expected to rule firm on the finer wools, but probably easier on medium to coarse cross-breds. Brisbane, Australia, was very firm this week. Operations in the West are moderate and prices hardly changed for the week."

## Section 3
## MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products June 1: Chicago hog prices closed at $14.30 for the top, bulk of sales $13.60 to $14; beef steers (1100-1500), choice $10 to $10.65; heifers, good and choice $7.75 to $10; cows, good and choice, $6.75 to $7.90; canners and cutters $3.75 to $4.90; vealers, medium to choice $10 to $14; heavy calves, medium to choice $6.50 to $8.25; stocker and feeder steers, common to choice $16 to $18.65; yearling wethers, medium to choice $13 to $16.75; fat ewes, common to choice, $4.50 to $7.75; feeding lambs medium to choice $12 to $13.75.

South Carolina Irish Cobbler potatoes ranged $7.50 to $8.50 per clothtop barrel in city markets; $7 to $7.25 f.o.b. Charleston. Florida Spaulding Rose mostly $9 to $9.50 per double barrel. Florida wrapped tomatoes, fancy count, brought $3.50 to $4.50 per six-basket carrier in eastern markets. California Salmon Tint cantaloupes mostly $3 to $3.50 per standard 45 in consuming centers; $1.60 to $1.75 f.o.b. El Centro. Maryland and Delaware various varieties of strawberries sold at 18¢ to 27¢ quart basis in eastern markets. Virginia berries 12¢ to 18¢.

Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets declined 2 points, closing at 17.93¢ per lb. New York July future contracts declined 4 points, closing at 18.36¢.

(Prepared by Bu.of Agr. Econ.)

Industrials and Railroads

| Average closing price | June 1, | May 28, | June 1, 1925 |
|---|---|---|---|
| 20 Industrials | 142.30 | 143.43 | 129.69 |
| 20 R. R. Stocks | 109.46 | 110.23 | 99.10 |

(Wall St. Jour., June 2.)

# DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XXI, No. 54 Section 1 June 3, 1926.

FARM RELIEF LEGISLATION The press to-day reports: "Charges that the promise of agricultural relief legislation at this session of Congress was a farce staged to fool the farmers and afford Senatorial candidates a chance to support a bill they knew the President would veto, and the House would not accept were made on the Senate floor yesterday. Senator Robinson of Arkansas, the Democratic leader, and Senator La Follette, the Wisconsin Progressive, accused the leaders of the so-called farm bloc of insincerity and of permitting the farm bill to be displaced by other measures. An insinuation was made by Senator Robinson that the Republican leaders of the Senate preferred to await the outcome of the Brookhart-Cummins primary in Iowa Monday before allowing the Haugen bill to be acted upon. Although this bill had the parliamentary right of way, its backers manifested no emphatic desire to continue its discussion. Senator McNary was willing to have it laid aside, but Senator Blease of South Carolina objected. . . . As a result of the insistence of Senator Blease that the bill maintain its legislative position, Senator McNary had to proceed with his explanation of the measure, but after he had finished and when Senator Blease had left the chamber the bill was, after all, put aside and aviation was discussed for the rest of the day. No real progress was made on the farm bill, most of the time being consumed with attacks by Senators Robinson and La Follette, and in considering a point by Senators Caraway and George that the Senate had no authority to originate such a measure. These two latter Senators took the ground that the $250,000,000 revolving fund proposed in the bill was a revenue-raising feature and that because of this the bill contravened the right of the House to initiate revenue legislation. . . . "

---

PRODUCTION COST INVESTIGATION The Tariff Commission yesterday notified the Senate it had ordered an investigation into the cost of production of peanuts, soy beans and cottonseed, in response to a Senate resolution. (Press, June 3.)

---

CROP INFORMATION ASKED Bills designed to aid cotton and tobacco growers by requiring the dissemination of more complete information about these crops was approved yesterday by the House agricultural committee, according to the press to-day.

---

FEDERAL EXPENSES The press to-day reports: "Official figures covering Governmental expenditures and receipts for the eleven months of the fiscal year 1926 became available yesterday in the Treasury daily statement and failed to bear out the forecast made at the White House Tuesday in behalf of the President that the budget surplus for the fiscal year, which ends on June 30, would be considerably below $250,000,000. .... "

---

Section 2

Cotton Crop

The Wall Street Journal for June 2 says: "Area to be planted to cotton this year is 47,200,000 acres, condition on May 18 was 72 and the season is two weeks late. This is the gist of the Jay & Co. reports, which seems to confirm the deductions of other authorities. The cotton trade must now begin to ask, and attempt to answer, a hypothetical question: Will the crop be large enough to meet prospective demand? If it will be large enough, how much will be the surplus? At this time of year the look ahead is a long one and full of uncertainties, but to be successful anyone in the cotton business must look far into the future. So far as authorities can see now, the probable world consumption of American cotton this coming season should be about 14,000,000 bales. Toward that demand there should be a carryover of old American cotton of 6,000,000 bales. The crop this year then should make up the difference between probable carryover and prospective consumption and also provide for a safe carryover of at least 3,000,000 bales. Cotton is a crop of possibilities and, until ginned, rarely ever one of probabilities so no one is justified in predicting the outcome. . . . . "

Cotton in Africa

The exploitation of the almost untouched resources in the vast interior of the African Continent is one of the large projects of the twentieth century, says the National Bank of Commerce, in a survey of that continent's development. It is pointed out that cotton is the crop through which, chiefly, the attempt is being made to develop Africa's agriculture. Progress along this line is seen as of vital importance to America. "Africa's contribution to world production in the past season was over-shadowed by the big American crop," says the bank, "but the establishment of great irrigation works, the successful struggle against native inertia, the development of transport facilities and the dissemination of crop education and experience are works of enduring character which carry the germ of future growth. . . . . The world cotton market, on the whole, is a free market and it is in that market that the African crop will take its place. It apparently offers no threat to those who are producing at a fair cost, but its progress suggests the fundamental unsoundness in the view that the boll-weevil has been a blessing to the South, or in similar reasoning. A limitation on the American supply which so largely increases its unit cost of production and which subjects the world's cotton manufacturing industry to constant crop hazard is the strongest incentive to the development of potentialities such as Africa possesses."

Danish Agriculture

"The Secret of the Independent Farmers of Denmark" is the title of an article by Joseph K. Hart in The Survey for June 1. He says in part: "The Danish farm, large or small, is a congeries of natural elements, native or imported--soils, fertilizers, tools, power, seeds and seasons--all organized for the production of a desired crop. Yet this farm is not a factory--with the setting of factory industry. It is still a country farm. . . . . The economic organization or the agricultural community--always the fundamental factor in a civilization--must first be noted. The total agricultural area of Denmark is

somewhat in excess of eight million acres; the agricultural population is slightly in excess of one million. The number of agricultural holdings is a little above two hundred thousand, distributed, according to the latest available figures: Under 7 acres, 44,000 holdings; between 7 and 37 acres, 90,000 holdings; between 37 and 148 acres, 66,000 holdings; between 148 and 300 acres, 4000 holdings; between 300 and 600 acres, 900 holdings; over 600 acres, 400 holdings. It thus appears that the smaller farms are in the great majority, and that by far the greater part of the agricultural area is taken up by medium sized farms. The large farms cover less than 10 per cent of the total area. Moreover, the tendency of Danish custom and legislation is toward the maintenance of the greatest possible number of independent farms. There is definite legislation forbidding the concentration of large agricultural holdings. In addition, it should be pointed out that not less than 93 per cent of these farms are owned by the farmers themselves. . . . The chief lines of production in Danish agriculture now are dairy farming and the raising of hogs, with poultry products following close behind. As indicative of the extent of Danish production and export, we may consider dairy products. The country produces annually about 3,500,000 tons of milk. Of this, 400,000 tons--about 800,000,000 pints--is consumed annually as fresh milk, within the Nation. The balance is used principally in making butter, of which about 120,000 tons is produced annually--say 240,000,000 pounds. Of this amount 112,000 tons is annually exported--most of this to Great Britain. Similar figures covering meat products, poultry products, and certain other lesser materials, could be presented. But these are enough to indicate the enormous extent of Denmark's intensive productivity and her export interests."

Irrigation Problems

An editorial in The New York Times for June 1 says: "These are hard days for the farmer in the White House. To the rumors of revolt among the farmers of the corn and hog belt have been added warnings of an uprising among the dry-farmers of the mountain States, and now, at last, from wet (or would-be wet) farmers of one of the irrigation projects comes the report of threatened violence and almost rebellion. . . . . The trouble is about water for the crops. The Government has declined to continue the unrestricted granting of water from the North Platte irrigation project to the farmers who are two years or more in arrears in payment of their water charges. This has naturally angered the farmers, who point out that without water to-day they can not make enough to pay even one year's arrears, much less two. . . . . Cutting off water from irrigated farms, even as a method of forcing payments, is an unsatisfactory expedient. That this has been resorted to only as an extreme measure is obvious from the report of the Commissioner of Reclamation. Summing up the conditions on the North Platte project during 1925, the Commissioner states that the arrears are greater than on any other project. . . . . The Commissioner points out that the operation of these projects out of reclamation funds when the water users are badly in arrears 'is unfair to the great body of farmers throughout the country who have neither aid nor subsidy in their farming operations.'"

Meat Situation A review of the meat and livestock situation during the month just closed, issued by the Institute of American Meat Packers, states in part: "Nothwithstanding a good demand for smoked and dry salt meats, the results on pork operations in the American meat packing industry during May were rather unsatisfactory, owing to the relatively high level of the hog market. During most of the month, hog prices averaged more than ten per cent. higher than during the same period a year ago, and almost double the prices which prevailed during May, 1923, and May, 1924, when hog production and marketings were at a peak. The demand for beef was fair, with steady prices. Hide values showed improvement during the month. There was some improvement in the demand from England for American meats and prices showed improvement also, but the total volume of the trade was small. The demand for lard was only fair. On the Continent, there was little demand for meats. The demand for lard, which was of good proportions during the first part of the month, was confined largely to stocks previously landed."

Migratory Bird Legislation An editorial in The Baltimore Sun for June 2 says: "The Senate has been devoting weeks to discussion of a bill to provide sanctuaries for migratory birds, a number of opponents of the bill being very much concerned over the view their constituents will take of a law which compels them to pay a Federal fee of a dollar for the privilege of hunting. The very considerable sum thus raised would be devoted to purchase of breeding grounds. Another purpose of the bill is to secure better enforcement of the Federal migratory game law, which limits the hunter's bag and establishes closed seasons. In States such as Maryland, where there is close cooperation with the Federal authorities and laws have been enacted with similar restrictions upon hunters, migratory birds are properly protected, with the result that some of them again are becoming plentiful here. There has been large increase in the number of ducks in Maryland waters in recent years due to better enforcement of State and Federal laws against indiscriminate slaughter of them. But Congress has appropriated a very small sum of money to carry out the Federal law, and where State acts are weak and enforcement lax migratory birds are being exterminated.....There is no disagreement as to the advisability of conserving migratory birds. If all States attended to the duty as well as Maryland, the problem would be solved. If others are not willing to do so, if they have not the means to provide refuges, and if in the absence of them the rapid depletion of the supply that is now going on must continue, the question of what Congress should do is a pertinent one. Heretofore it has refused to make appropriations to enforce effectively Federal game laws. If it wishes to do so and will spend the money, it can establish what sanctuaries are necessary working out in all the States the same scheme of cooperation which is in effect in Maryland and a number of other States and by which the end sought is being attained."

New York Milk Situation The New York Times of June 2 reports: "William H. Kehoe, Assistant Corporation Counsel during the early months of Mayor Hylan's administration, now a practicing attorney at 111 Broadway, was indicted yesterday on a charge of conspiring with Samuel Doner, a wholesale cream dealer, and others to permit the importation into New York of bootleg cream from sources of supply not approved by the Health Department. Mr. Kehoe, as a member of the Corporation Counsel's staff, was assigned to the Health Department where he was responsible for the prosecution of offenses such as those he is accused of committing. He afterward represented many milk dealers who

were accused of violating the Sanitary Code, and at various times appeared before Dr. Monaghan when he was Health Commissioner, on behalf of the dealers. The indictment of Mr. Kehoe is regarded by the authorities as ending the quest for the 'master mind' of the alleged milk conspiracy by means of which many thousands of quarts of bootleg cream were said to have found their way into New York despite the Health Department ban...."

## Section 3
## MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

June 2: Chicago hog prices closed at $14.40 for the top; bulk of sales $13.70 to $14.10; beef steers, choice $9.85 to $10.60; heifers, good and choice, $7.75 to $9.75; cows, good and choice $6.75 to $8; canners and cutters $3.75 to $4.85; vealers, medium to choice $10 to $13.75; heavy calves, medium to choice $6.50 to $8.25; stocker and feeders, common to choice $6.50 to $9.10; fat lambs medium to choice $16 to $18.65; yearling wethers, medium to choice $13 to $16.80; fat ewes, common to choice $4.50 to $7.25; feeding lambs medium to choice $12 to $13.75.

New potatoes continued to decline; old stocks irregular. Florida Spaulding Rose closed at $8.50 to $9.50 per barrel. South Carolina Irish Cobblers $7 to $8 in eastern cities; $6.50 to $6.75 f.o.b. Charleston. Texas Yellow Bermuda onions generally weaker, closing at $1.50 to $1.75 per crate in consuming centers. California Salmon Tint cantaloupes ranged 25¢ to $1 lower at $2.75 to $3.50 per standard 45 in terminal markets; mostly $1.60 to $1.65 f.o.b. El Centro. Missouri and Kentucky Aroma strawberries $4 to $6 per 24-quart crate in Midwestern markets; auction sales $2.50 to $3.75 at Monett, Mo. Florida wrapped stock tomatoes, fancy count, brought $3 to $4.75 per six-basket carrier in city markets; $3.50 f.o.b. Ocala district, Florida.

Closing prices on 92 score butter: New York 40 1/4¢; Chicago 39 1/2¢; Philadelphia 41¢; Boston 41¢.

Grain market quoted June 2: No. 1 dark northern Minneapolis $1.54 to $1.61. No. 2 red winter Chicago $1.48 1/4; St. Louis $1.49. No. 2 hard winter Chicago $1.51 1/2; St. Louis $1.54. No. 2 mixed corn Chicago 69¢. No. 3 mixed corn Chicago 66 1/2¢; Minneapolis 62¢. No. 2 yellow corn Chicago 70 1/2¢. No. 3 yellow corn Chicago 68 1/4¢; St. Louis 69¢; Minneapolis 66¢. No. 3 white corn Chicago 68 1/2¢; St. Louis 72¢. No. 3 white oats Chicago 40 1/4¢; St. Louis 42¢; Minneapolis 36 1/2¢.

Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets declined 2 points during the week, closing at 17.92¢ per lb. New York July future contracts declined 5 points, closing at 18.35¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr Econ.)

Industrials and Railroads

| Average closing price | June 2, | June 1, | June 2, 1925 |
|---|---|---|---|
| 20 industrials | 143.55 | 142.30 | 132.42 |
| 20 R. R. stocks | 109.48 | 109.46 | 98.81 |

(Wall St. Jour., June 3.)

# DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XXI, No. 55 Section 1 June 4, 1926.

FARM RELIEF LEGISLATION

Farm relief legislation was taken up in the Senate yesterday and Senator McNary resumed his speech in explanations of proposals, according to the press to-day.

Frank R. Kent, writing from Des Moines, Iowa, to The Baltimore Sun to-day, says: " . . . . To understand the situation it is necessary to understand Iowa, and that is not easy in the East, where only a small fraction of the people have a general grasp of the facts, and there is but a dim, vague idea of what the familiar words 'corn belt' really mean. Beyond doubt this great territory, including parts of eleven States . . . . is the greatest agricultural spot in the world. . . . and Iowa is the very heart of the corn belt, the core of it all . . . . What it all means is that the lives, happiness and prosperity of everybody--bankers, merchants, professional men and laborers--in Iowa are contingent upon agriculture in a way difficult to conceive in the manufacturing East. Any long continued and deep agricultural depression would, of course, disastrously affect us all. Here the temporary fluctuations and depressions really reach into everybody's pocket--touch every life. Such a depression exists to-day. . . . There is no space here to discuss reasons. It is enough to say that everybody agrees something is wrong and something has got to be done. . . . "

---

COTTON ACREAGE

The press to-day says: "An increase in cotton acreage over last year of 0.6 per cent. is shown in a report on cotton crop conditions issued yesterday by A. A. Houseman-Gwathmey and Company. This increase occurred despite the fact that the 1925 cotton crop was the largest on record and that present prices of the staple are said to be close to the actual cost of production. In figures--the Agriculture Department's revised acreage figures for 1925 of 48,000,000 being used as a basis--the increase in acreage this year amounts to 380,000 acres. The average amount still to be planted 16 per cent is not unusual, it was said, as the crop is never entirely seeded on May 23, which is the average date of returns for the report. The average condition of the crop as of May 23 is given in the report as 71.0 per cent as against 77.1 per cent last year."

---

GERMAN GRAIN CROPS

A Berlin dispatch to the press to-day says: "The German harvest of bread grains will be relatively poor this year unless the dry weather of the last three months is compensated for by plentiful rain during the coming week, according to the Food Minister. It is reported that the agricultural districts of Brandenburg and Pomerania have had only about 10 per cent of the normal rainfall since March. . . . The present high tariff for bread grains and other agricultural products makes Germany more than ever dependent on her own harvests, and, if they are poor, German consumers would feel the resulting shortage of grain almost as much as the agricultural interests."

---

Agriculture in Alabama

E. A. O'Neal, president of the Alabama Farm Bureau Federation, in a communication to Manufacturers Record for June 3, says: "The greatest danger confronting the cotton farmer to-day is that of overproduction. As a matter of fact, we have come to regard overproduction as something more serious than the boll weevil and other pests. The same is true for the grain farmers, and I am inclined to think that it will become true of the livestock farmers, provided prices remain high enough to stimulate production....It is very unfortunate that the number of tenant farmers is steadily increasing. Just what the outcome will be I am unable to say, but it certainly does not look wholesome. On the other hand, there is the consolation that there will be in agriculture a 'survival of the fittest' and that those who are not capable of making a decent living on the farm will seek other occupations....As I see it, our first big need in agriculture is efficient production, which requires good seed of the best varieties, rich land, proper fertilization, improved machinery for preparing, cultivating and harvesting, and modern methods in both production and marketing. A close second is efficient marketing. It is a very unfortunate fact that the American farmers get only around 30 cents out of the consumer's dollar, while the Danish farmers get 80 to 90 cents. The American farmers are not getting enough of the wealth which they produce. I believe that every intelligent man who has studied this question will admit that I am right. I believe also that those who have studied this question realize that our hopes lie in cooperation along practical business lines with business men in charge. This is our plan here in Alabama, and I am pleased to say that it has brought great good to the farmers of Alabama."

Bacon Production in Britain

The Farmers' Gazette (Dublin) for May 22 says: "...Both in England and Scotland for a considerable time past at meetings to arrange for the establishment of cooperative bacon factories, or for other purposes in connection with pig-keeping, strong lament has invariably been made regarding the failure of the home farmer to produce the proper type of bacon pig. After expressions of strong regret that it should be necessary for the country to pay such a huge bill annually for imported bacon, the speakers are mostly wont to concentrate on the class and weight of pig most suitable for producing the uniform quality of bacon and hams which the market demands, and which the outside competitor has so well fitted himself to supply. The discussion has been a lasting one, and for so far no finalities have been reached. The supremacy of a breed is one thing, the raising of a prime curer's pig another. On the other side they have more competing breeds than we have here. It is a far cry from a Tamworth to a Wessex Saddle-back and from a Middle-York to a Gloucester White-Spot. Here we have no such conflicting interests, no clashing of breed propaganda....Southern curing firms know the exact size and type of pig they want to produce a side which will be graded as stout or lean sizeable on the London market, and command the highest price. It takes such choicely selected, high quality bacon to meet the keen competition of Danish, Canadian, Swedish, and Dutch supplies. The uniformity of the Danish product calls for admiration, and testifies to the energetic skill of both feeders and curing factories, and the close cooperation which exists between them....."

Farm School Conference The New York Times of June 3 reports: "The problems of interesting city boys and girls in farming as a profession and of devising means to offset the farm-to-the-city movement, were discussed June 2 at the National Farm School Conference at New York. The conference was held under the auspices of the National Farm School, a non-sectarian farm school established by the late Rabbi Joseph Krauskopf in 1896 at Doyleston, Pa. Sessions will continue through Monday. Appointees of thirty-five Governors and fifty Mayors of the principal cities were present at the sessions on Wednesday. The principal speaker was Assistant Secretary of Agriculture R. W. Dunlap... Mr. Dunlap read a message from Secretary of Agriculture W. M. Jardine who praised the work of the National Farm School....Mr. Dunlap commended the officers of the school for giving practical as well as theoretical instruction in farming. Students of the school have the opportunity to rotate in the various departments and to become acquainted with different phases of farm work. The course is three years. During the first and second year the students work under the Faculty and the senior. During the senior year students who show ability are placed in charge of various departments or parts of the farm to develop executive ability and responsibility. The work includes courses in horticulture, dairying, floriculture, poultry raising and bee-keeping. No tuition or board is charged students."

Forestry Work in Alabama An editorial in Florida Times-Union for May 28 says: "Alabama apparently, is doing very considerable and practicable forestry work. The State is a neighbor of Florida. Its forest and timber interests are very similar to those in this State. Alabama, however, appears to be in advance of Florida in the matter of forest conservation and in fact of reforestation, doing good and practical work along both lines. Alabama has a moving forestry department, something that Florida recently has started to get into operation. That Alabama's forestry department is moving forward is indicated by a recent bulletin, sent out from the Montgomery office of the State commission of forestry, in which it is said that 'Over 5,000,000 acres have been added to the area included within the forestry districts since the first of the year,' and that 'this brings the total patrolled area up to date at about eight and three-quarter million acres, five and three-quarter million acres having been under patrol at the close of 1925.'....It is evident that forestry work in Alabama is for the benefit of owners of small forest areas as well as for that of the owners of larger areas of land. By cooperation necessary work is made possible."

New England Agriculture An editorial in The American Review of Reviews for June says: "There is a great contrast between the agriculture of the West that has to rely upon distant markets for the sale of wheat or wool or livestock, and that of New England.....New England farming has experienced a somewhat striking revival in recent years. This is due to the immense population of New England, in industrial towns and cities, that provides a nearby market for the farmers' special products. Ultimately some of the more acute difficulties of the western farmers will pass away through the growth of local markets, followed by crop diversification. With what we know of soil improvement, and with modern farm machinery, the farms of the United States could readily feed three or four times our present population. A perfect balance as between city and country is not to be expected anywhere at any given moment; but country life is

so valuable a feature of our American social system that its reasonable prosperity should be a matter of governmental concern."

Wheat Outlook

An editorial in The Wall Street Journal for May 29 says: " 'What are the prospects for the price of wheat between now and the first of September?' There can be no direct answer to this question of a reader because it would be merely a matter of opinion. It is possible to state some facts from which he may draw his own conclusions, always remembering that crops are largely a matter of weather and that there may be many changes before harvest. Prediction has been called the most gratuitous form of human folly. A month ago experts estimated our wheat outlook at around 800,000,000 bushels, allowing 550,000,000 bushels for winter and 250,000,000 for spring. Since then there have been parts of the belt suffering from lack of moisture but no great damage has been done. If seasonal rains occur up to ripening time, that estimate will probably stand for the winter wheat....A crop of 800,000,000 bushels should given an exportable surplus of considerable size. The foreign situation is such as to make likely a need for a large part of our winter wheat before the first of September and also for future delivery. Between the first of August, 1925, and May 15, 1926, the countries who buy from us absorbed 470,000,000 bushels of foreign wheat. By the end of May their takings should approximate 500,000,000 bushels. If those countries in 10 months take 500,000,000 bushels, a fair estimate can be made of what the total for 12 months will be. Their crop season begins the first of August. What will they take in the coming season when their present crop outlook is not so good as last year? International grain experts say 650,000,000 bushels, as a minimum. This estimate receives strong corroboration in the stocks in store and on passage. European finances have been such that an accumulation of wheat has been impossible. Buying has been on the hand-to-mouth order throughout the season. As a consequence, Europe has no large supply in store, neither is there liklihood of any great quantity being on passage between now and the first of August. Wheat must be purchased steadily at least until the harvests of those countries, and the United States will be the best market in which to buy. At this early date, before any estimate of Canada's crop can be made, it appears as if Europe's dependence upon the United States this summer and autumn will be more than a year ago. Therefore, watch the progress of our crop, especially in the Northwest."

Wool Situation

A Boston dispatch to the press to-day says: " There is a wider range in the demand for wool than there was a week ago and apparently a larger movement, but prices are still soft and in several instances there have been 'distress' sales. The reports which come from the far West show a greater confidence in the future, however, in that they indicate the development of some speculative buying, relying upon improved prices in the distribution centers. All the territory wool States are reporting a good business to the Boston houses. The asking price for fine and fine medium territory wool in Boston runs from $1.10 to $1.15, but most of the business done is said to be close to the $1.10 rate."

Section 3

Department of Agriculture

The Journal of the (British) Ministry of Agriculture for May, commenting editorially on the (American) Cooperative Marketing Bill, says in part: "The Department of Agriculture has done from its inception a great deal of work with respect to the improvement of methods of production; in fact, its early activities were confined largely to matters affecting the production of agricultural products. In recent years it has done considerable work with respect to marketing. It is the purpose of the bill to enlarge the activities of the department so that they may keep pace with the growth and development of the cooperative movement. It is intended that this bill, if enacted, will enable the department to do for the marketing of agricultural products, through cooperative associations, work of a character analogous to that which it has always done in regard to production. . . . It is generally known that farmers, due to the large number of them and to their widely scattered geographical situation, proceed in many respects unintelligently in regard to the production and marketing of their products. The provision in question would tend to alleviate this condition."

---

Section 4
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

June 2: Chicago hog prices closed at $14.45; bulk of sales $13.70 to $14.10; beef steers choice $9.85 to $10.60; cows, good and choice $6.85 to $8.15; canners and cutters $3.75 to $5; vealers, medium to choice $10.50 to $14; heavy calves $6.50 to $8.25; stockers and feeders, common to choice $6.50 to $9.10; fat lambs medium to choice $16.25 to $18.90; yearling wethers, medium to choice $13.25 to $17; fat ewes, common to choice, $4.50 to $7.

New potatoes continued to decline; old stock firm. Florida Spaulding Rose $8 to $9 per barrel. South Carolina Irish Cobblers mostly $7 to $8 in eastern cities; $5.75 to $6.50 f.o.b. Texas Yellow Bermuda onions slightly weaker, closing at $1.35 to $1.75 per standard crate. Florida tomatoes, fancy count, weak at $2.50 to $4.50 per six-basket carrier in consuming centers. Strawberry prices generally lower. Maryland and Delaware various varieties 13¢ to 20¢ quart basis in eastern markets; Kentucky and Missouri Aromas mostly $4 to $4.75 per 24-quart crate, top of $6 in Pittsburgh. California Salmon Tint cantaloupes around 25¢ to 50¢ lower at $2.75 to $3.25 per standard 45 in city markets; $1.60 to $1.75 f.o.b. El Centro.

Middling spot cotton in 7 designated spot markets declined 9 points, closing at 17.83¢ per lb. (holiday in 3 markets), New York July future contracts advanced 1 point, closing at 18.36¢.

Grain prices quoted June 3: No. 1 dark northern Minneapolis $1.56 to $1.65. No. 2 red winter St. Louis $1.52; Kansas City $1.46 1/2. No. 2 hard winter Kansas City $1.55 1/2; No. 3 hard winter St.Louis $1.56. No. 3 mixed corn Minneapolis 64¢; Kansas City 70¢. No. 3 yellow corn St.Louis 70 1/2¢; Minneapolis 68¢; Kansas City 71 1/2¢. No. 3 white corn Kansas City 71¢. No. 3 white oats St.Louis 42 3/4¢; Minneapolis 37 1/4¢; Kansas City 41¢.

Closing prices on 92 score butter: New York 42¢; Chicago 40¢; Philadelphia 42¢; Boston 41 1/2¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

---

# DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XXI, No. 56 Section 1 June 5, 1926.

FARM RELIEF LEGISLATION

The Press to-day reports: "Crop price stabilization, which has claimed the attention of Congress in one way or another for some months, again is formally in the spotlight, this time in the Senate. Closely resembling in principle the Haugen bill recently rejected by the House, its fate rests upon ability of sponsors to convince Southern Senators that the equalization fee and other elements of the plan merit their support. Senator McNary, leading the fight for the plan, drew remarks from some of the southern Democrats yesterday which indicated strong doubts regarding its wisdom, but he insisted that it would operate in favor of the producer and consumer. Opposition, he charged, was coming from the middleman and profiteer. Senator Ransdell contended that the views of only 9 per cent of the producers had been obtained and that the remainder should be given an opportunity to express their opinion of the scheme before the equalization fee principles were applied. Opposition also was voiced by Senator Shipstead, who held that the plan involved a Government 'monopoly' in wheat, and Senator Mayfield questioned the value of withholding products from the market through cooperative organizations, pointing out that the price of cotton had not been sustained although 1,500,000 bales had been turned over to these associations during the year....."

---

PANAMA RUBBER RIGHTS

The Associated Press to-day reports: "Aroused by reports that British interests have obtained concessions on vast tracts of public lands in Panama on both sides of the Canal Zone, Chairman Borah, of the Senate foreign relations committee, introduced a resolution yesterday calling on the State and War Departments for all available information on the subject....."

A London dispatch to-day says: "A flat denial to the report from Washington that this Government is interested in a British corporation, which according to Richard O. Marsh, an American rubber expert, aims to acquire a British rubber monopoly in Panama, was given last night. An equally emphatic denial to Marsh's claim that the Panama Corporation, of this city, has a concession of practically all the Panama lands on which rubber can be grown was forthcoming from the officials of this corporation in London...."

---

ARMISTICE DAY

The House yesterday adopted a Senate resolution calling on President Coolidge to declare Armistice Day as a day of prayer, according to the press to-day.

---

BUSINESS CONDITIONS

Dun's Review to-day says: "The comparative steadiness of current trade is an encouraging phase that is commented upon in dispatches from many quarters. There is more of a tone of cheerfulness to some reports, either because of an actual gain in orders or owing to improved prospects, and more resistance to price concessions is noted in certain lines.

---

Section 2

Agriculture in Virginia

G. W. Koiner, Commissioner of Agriculture for Virginia, in a communication to Manufacturers Record for June 3, says: ".....Owing to the great diversity of products and to the fact that Virginia farmers also produce a large percentage of their own food and feed, agricultural conditions in Virginia during the past five years have not been as bad as in many other States, especially in the Central South, where the one-crop system largely prevails. Since the great depression in 1920 there has been some hardship on Virginia farms and some counties show a considerable reduction in the land in cultivation, but for the State as a whole there has been advancement in agriculture since 1920. There was an increase of approximately 4 per cent in the number of farms from 1920 to 1925, but there was a decrease of 7 per cent in the amount of land in farms, the average size of Virginia farms dropping from 99.7 in 1920 to 89.9 acres in 1925. The decrease is due to several causes--the growth of suburbs around cities, the purchase of forest reserves by the Federal Government, the acquiring of large tracts by lumber companies and the abandonment of less productive farms in the eastern and central counties. Fortunately, in Virginia land values did not rise too high during the war years, and when the depression came there was not the slump in value which occurred in some States, especially in the Middle West. Another indication of progress is the fact that the number of tractors on Virginia farms increased from 2,379 in 1920 to 6.773 in 1925. Virginia farmers have been quick to utilize modern inventions and in 1925 3,715 farms were equipped with radio receiving sets, and since that time there has been a tremendous increase in the use of radios. The State Bank Examiner informs us that there have been very few failures in banks in the rural section during the past five years, and in nearly every case the failure was due to inefficient or dishonest management rather than to financial depression. We are also informed that the Federal Land Bank of Baltimore has had fewer foreclosures in Virginia than in any other State in which that bank has made loans. The five-year period also shows a decrease in per cent of Virginia farms operated by tenants.....The remedy here is commodity cooperative societies with a large majority of growers cooperating. They must practically all pull together or this method is ineffective. The individual, scattered, subservient methods must go. The farmer has made the mistake of trying to life himself up by his bootstraps. Sometimes he increases the volume of his business in the hope that it will solve the problem. But the fact that he sells at or below the cost of production, the greater the surplus the greater are his losses. It is like pouring oil instead of water on fire. Cooperation and less production is the farmer's way out at present. If there is any other way, what is it?...."

Butter Imports

An editorial in The Pacific Dairy Review for May 27 says: "Within the American dairy industry itself there are two schools of thought concerning a 12 per cent butter tariff. One holds it is a blessing, while the other is not quite sure. As is usually the case, each side has an argument reasonably convincing. The chief harm of butter imports to the American dairy farmer was not in displacing his product. At no time in recent years has enough foreign butter been brought in to cause even a ripple in national consumption. The dairy farmer suffered, however, just

as did his middle-men, from an artificiality in the marketing structure National markets are sensitive things. Heavy consignments of foreign butter would arrive, say, at New York. The New York market would absorb the importation, but would be depressed in consequence and Philadelphia, Chicago and, to a lesser extent, San Francisco quickly reflect this depression. Until the market had a chance to right itself once more, the dairy farmers all over the United States would receive a slightly lower price for their product. For instance, the price fell off 1/2-cent. Multiply this 1/2-cent by the number representing pounds of butterfat produced in one day in the United States and you will have an astonishing total -- money that could have gone into the farmer's pocket but for a trifling batch or two of foreign butter arriving inopportunely at a port thousands of miles away. The hazard to the market which foreign butter offered has been eliminated, many believe, by the 12-cent tariff."

Canadian Farmer Position

The Canadian farmer enjoys much greater benefit from the present era of prosperity than does the American agriculturist, since the prices of Canadian farm products are considerably above the general pric level, while the average price of United States farm products is below, according to the monthly letter of the Royal Bank of Canada. For severa months the entire trend of basic commodity prices has been downward in both this country and Canada, and, as is usual, raw materials suffered more than finished products. "The Dominion Bureau of Statistics index for 236 commodities in April was 160.6, against 163.8 for January," the letter says, "while the April index number for Canadian farm products stands at 172.9. On the other hand the United States Department of Agriculture index shows that farm products in the United States stand at 146, as against a general price level of approximately 154. In both cases these indices are weighted in relation to the economic importance of the various prices going into the index. The prevailing low prices for corn and cotton go far to explain the low prices in the United States while the high price of wheat, which is proportionately a much more important product in Canada, is a large factor in the prosperity of the Canadian farming." Taking 100 to represent the average 1913 price of commodities, the following index numbers, as contained in the letter, show that the balance between purchasing power and consumption was maintained during April in better proportion in Canada than in the United States: Farm products, 172.9 animal, 138; foods, 169.3; textiles and their products, 175.9; wood products and paper, 156.9; iron and its products, 145; non-ferrous metals and their products, 104.4; non-metallic minerals and their products, 177; building and construction materials, 150.4; all commodities, 160.6.

Cotton Outlook

An editorial in The Washington Post for June 4 says: "The Journal of Commerce of New York has made an important and interesting survey of the cotton prospects for the present year. Its estimate of June 1, which covers the twelve principal cotton-producing States, indicates a decrease of 2,450,000 bales. The governing facts which appear to lead the journal to this estimate are a decrease in acreage of 2.3 per cent and a condition of 65.9 per cent of normal compared with 73 per cent at this time last year, combined with the fact that, on the average, the crop is eighteen days later than last year, when it was unusually early. Should the reduction approach anything like the estima then the surplus from the present crop probably will be needed, in

Addition to the new crop, to meet the world's requirements of American cotton for the coming season....The total exports of American cotton to date this year are slightly below those of last year, but recently the exports have been running somewhat above those for the corresponding weeks of last year, so that by the end of the season the aggregate exports may easily be equal to the total of last year...."

Farm School Conference

The New York Times of June 4 reports: "Gabriel Davidson, general manager of the Jewish Agricultural Society, told the delegates to the National Farm School Conference at New York June 3 that Jews who settled on American farms were proving to the world that they were at home on the soil. Twenty-five years ago, said Mr. Davidson, there were 1,000 Jewish farms in two or three States. At the present time, he declared, there were 7,500 Jewish farmers whose holdings of 1,000,000 acres were valued at $100,000,000.....G. H. Hecke, Commissioner of Agriculture, of California, spoke of the 'Oriental Menace' to agriculture in his State. He said California woke up to 'an amazing situation when she found Japanese, Chinese and Hindus swarming over the farms and threatening to outnumber the American farmers,' He said that then his State realized the need of scientific men on the farms and began working to that end with excellent results.....B. F. Yoakum, former railroad builder, of Long Island, spoke on the stabilization of farm products. He told of one instance of a farmer in Oklahoma selling melons at 5 cents each. The melons were sold in St. Paul at 85 cents each, freight being 12 cents and 68 cents going for commission. 'In Maine,' he declared, 'the average production of potatoes is 40,000,000 bushels a year. Two years ago they sold the next year's crop at 35 to 50 cents a bushel. The consumers of New York City paid for the same potatoes $2.50 a bushel. In Florida the potato growers two years ago practically went out of business. The St. Paul Potato Growers' Association, controlling 16,000 carloads of potatoes, was financially destroyed and gave up business. This country must find a way to stabilize the price of potatoes....." The conference was called to discuss the agricultural situation generally and to devise means of expanding the facilities of the National Farm School founded thirty years ago by the late Dr. Krauskopf of Philadelphia, to give city boys a three-year study in agriculture.

---

Section 3

Department of Agriculture

In an editorial on the Purnell Act, Price Current-Grain Reporter for June 2 says: "....This law provides a yearly increase of $10,000 until a maximum of $60,000 is reached for the year ending June 30, 1930, after which date the maximum sum is to be given each such station, each year. Wide latitude is given in the expenditure of this money, so long as in the judgment of the different administrative officials it is used in the establishment and maintenance of a permanent and efficient agricultural industry, the development and improvment of the rural home and rural life and for printing and disseminating the result of such researches. For the most part, we believe the money is well spent, even to telling a farmer's wife where she should have her kitchen stove, table, pump, etc., or to saying that she should have a dish drainer, a wheeled tray or a kitchen sink. If, however, each one of the 48 stations undertakes the same kind of studies, many of which are no more complicated than these, a good deal of money will be wasted. From word that comes to us, it appears that there is now a lot of duplication in the study of cooperative marketing and while it will unquestionably take

an enormous amount of research work to prove its universal value, it is hardly to be expected that any of the stations now conducting such a study will consider it wise to discontinue it. We have yet to hear of any of these stations using any of this money or of that appropriated by the different States, to show the value of our present grain marketing methods, or to suggest ways in which they might be improved."

Section 4

MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

June 4: Chicago hog prices closed at $14.65 for the top, bulk of sales $13.80 to $14.30; beef steers, heifers, good and choice, $7.75 to $9.75; cows, good and choice, $6.65 to $8.15; canner and cutter $3.75 to $4.75; vealers, medium to choice $10.50 to $14; heavy calves, medium to choice, $6.50 to $8.25; stocker and feeder steers, common to choice, $6.75 to $9.10; fat lambs, medium to choice $16.25 to $19; yearling wethers, medium to choice $13.25 to $17; fat ewes, common to choice $4.25 to $6.75.

South Carolina Irish Cobbler potatoes closed at $6 to $7.75 per barrel in eastern markets; $6 to $6.25 f.o.b. Charleston. Alabama and Louisiana sacked Bliss Triumphs; $4.50 to $4.75 per 100 pounds carlot sales in Chicago, $3.50 to $4. in other midwestern cities; $3 f.o.b. Mobile. Florida fancy wrapped tomatoes $2.50 to $4.50 per six-basket carrier. Texas arrivals $2.25 to $3. California Salmon Tint cantaloupes ranged $2.75 to $3 per standard 45 in eastern consuming centers; $3 to $3.75 in the Middle West and $1.50 to $1.65 f.o.b. El Centro. Maryland and Delaware various varieties mostly 14 to 20¢ quart basis in the East.

Closing prices on 92 score butter; New York 42¢; Chicago 40¢; Philadelphia 42¢; Boston 41 1/2¢.

Grain prices quoted June 4: No. 1 dark northern Minneapolis $1.57 to $1.64; No. 2 red winter St. Louis $1.54 1/2; Kansas City $1.55 No. 2 hard winter Chicago $156; St. Louis $1.58; Kansas City $1.59; No. 2 mixed corn Chicago 72¢; No. 3 mixed corn Chicago 66 1/2 to 68¢; Minneapolis 63 1/2¢; Kansas City 69 1/2¢. No. 2 yellow corn Chicago 72 1/2¢; No. 3 yellow corn Chicago 70 1/4¢; St. Louis 71 1/2¢; Minneapolis 67 1/2¢; Kansas City 71 1/2¢; No. 3 white corn Chicago 70 1/4¢. Kansas City 70 1/4¢. No. 3 white oats Chicago 40 3/4¢; St. Louis 42 3/4¢; Minneapolis 37 1/4¢; Kansas City 41¢.

Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets advanced 4 points, closing at 17.87¢ per lb. New York July future contracts declined 7 points, closing at 18.29¢. (Prepared by Bu.of Agr.Econ).

Industrials and Railroads

| Average closing price | June 4, | June 3, | June 4,1925 |
|---|---|---|---|
| 20 Industrials | 145.28 | 145.03 | 128.89 |
| 20 R. R. stocks | 110.53 | 109.74 | 98.41 |

(Wall St. Jour., June 5.)

# DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XXI, No. 57 Section 1 June 7, 1926.

FARM RELIEF LEGISLATION The Associated Press June 6 reported: "Forces supporting agricultural relief measures took a new lease on life June 5, when it was announced that Vice President Dawes had taken economic direction of farm legislation. The announcement was made by Senator Watson, after he had attended a conference of farm leaders in and out of Congress and at which the Vice President was present. The purpose was to agree upon a farm relief measure which it was believed the President would sign. Those attending the conference indorsed the McNary equalization fee measure now pending before the Senate, with several modifications. They favored reducing the revolving fund from $250,000,000 to $175,000,000, of which $75,000,000 would be used for the disposal of surplus cotton. Another amendment agreed upon would authorize the immediate operation of the equalization fee provision on all of the five basic farm commodities: Wheat, cattle, swine, cotton and corn. But the actual operation of the fee would be left in the hands of the producers of any of the commodities, who would determine by a referendum when they wished it to become effective....The conferees decided not to include the embargo and the tariff provisions contained in the Haugen bill, which was defeated by the House, and which is similar to the McNary measure. Among those attending the conference was George N. Peek, of Moline, Ill., who was active in support of the Haugen bill, and Chester Davis, representing the American Farm Bureau Federation. Others present, all Republicans, were Senators McNary, Cummins, Gooding and Representative Purnell...."

---

FEDERAL BUILDING PROGRAM The press of June 6 says: "Eight Federal public buildings projects are provided for the District in the first public buildings construction program, announced yesterday by the Treasury Department. .....The projects will cost $33,725,000, it is estimated. Appropriations totaling $5,825,000 will be asked of the present session of Congress to provide for the first year of work on them.../Estimates include Erection of a general office building for the Department of Agriculture, completion of the central part of the department's administration building, and the purchase of one of the smaller rented buildings now occupied by department offices. These projects will cost $8,075,000, of which $1,925,000 is to be expended the first year....."

---

GOOD ROADS MEASURE Amid charges and denials of a filibuster and threats that there would be no adjournment until the Federal aid good roads bill is passed, the Senate agreed June 5 to consider it this week with debate limited. (Press, June 6.)

---

COTTON AND ACREAGE REPORTS A New Orleans dispatch to the press to-day says: "Until the Government acreage estimate and first condition report are issued, a month hence, the market is apt to drift along in much the same rut into which it has fallen in recent weeks, unless the reports from the interior continue to show as satisfactory progress as has been experienced during the recent past. The breaking of the drought in the Carolinas and Georgia would undoubtedly make for somewhat lower prices..."

---

Section 2

British Meat Prices

A London dispatch to the press of June 5 says: "The Ministry of Agriculture's ban on the importation of meat carcasses from the Continent, because of the danger of introducing the foot-and-mouth disease, caused a sharp advance in prices at Smithfield June 4....Home stock advanced and American frozen meat was dearer. The ban set up by the Ministry does not affect imports from America, Argentina or Australia."

Business Conditions

Dun's Review for June 5 says: "The comparative steadiness of current trade is an encouraging phase that is commented upon in dispatches from many quarters. There is more of a tone of cheerfulness to some reports, either because of an actual gain in orders or owing to improved prospects, and more resistance to price concessions is noted in certain lines. The downward trend of the commodity markets, though continuing for six consecutive months, has been gradual, and it has had no generally disturbing effects."

Cotton Crop Reports

Commerce and Finance for June 2 says: "....In an effort to provide the trade with estimates that will command confidence, Commerce and Finance intends to publish a series of reports in which the indicated yield in every cotton producing county will be given as of the date of each report. This plan will involve the cooperation of at least one correspondent in each of the 861 counties in which cotton is grown and in the counties that produced more than 2,500 bales last year we shall hope to have a correspondent for each 5,000 bales produced. Thus we should have 20 correspondents in and 20 estimates of its production from a county that produced 100,000 bales last year and our estimate of the total yield will be arrived at by averaging the estimates for each county and adding together the averages so obtained. Following this plan we should be able to present composite estimates that will reflect the view of about 5,000 observers each of whom will report upon conditions in his county and his county only. No one will be asked for an estimate of the total crop or the total acreage as no one can have personal knowledge of the entire belt. Nor will any one be expected to achieve the impossible by describing the condition in figures that purport to be percentages of an indefinable and unthinkable normal....We believe that the opinion of an experienced and intelligent cotton man as to the outlook in his own immediate neighborhood can be relied upon whereas his estimate of the total yield would have to be based upon hearsay evidence of whose accuracy he could not be sure. We purpose to issue our first estimate on June 16....."

Electric Power for Farms

"The importance of extension into rural districts by electrical companies has been stressed recently by many leaders in the industry. No only is it considered necessary to provide a market for further expansio but it is suggested as a means for decentralizing industry and turning population back from urban to rural districts. By bringing industries into fields now exclusively agricultural, it is contended that fluctuations in the demand for farm labor would largely be offset with a resultant economic gain to both farming and manufacturing. In order to fi solutions for the problems which have been met in the extension of electrical service to the farming field, many public utility companies have established experimental rural power lines. These supply farms where electricity is utilized in every way possible. Thus costs for power, lighting and heating are established definitely. The Northern States Power Company set up what is said to be the first rural experimental power line. The experiments in applying electricity to agricult

were supervised by the Agricultural College of the University of Minnesota. It required considerable time to solve mechanical problems encountered, but two years' operation resulted in the accumulation of much data. Basing his opinions on this data, Charles F. Stuart, assistant to the vice president and general manager of Northern States, recently said that at present rural lines should be extended only when accompanied by educational effort." (N.Y.Times, June 4.)

Farm School Conference

The New York Times of June 5 reports: "The high productiveness of the American farmer, his abandonment of the farm because of the low return on his investment, the way in which he suffers from low prices by producing bumper crops and the need for reasonably stabilizing the price of farm products were some of the things discussed by former Governor Frank O. Lowden of Illinois at the morning session of the National Farm School Conference at New York, June 4. Governor Lowden said that after a wage allowance less than that of unskilled labor the American farmer last year received a net return of only 3.5 per cent, without deduction for either depreciation of farm improvements or for depletion of the soil. Mr. Lowden pointed out that the aggregate capital of the farmers, which was $47,000,000,000 in 1919-1920, decreased to $32,000,000,000 last year, on the basis of figures compiled by the United States Department of Agriculture. 'From these figures it is clear that the great agricultural plant of the United States is running down at a dangerous pace,' said Governor Lowden. 'It involves the very life of the Nation. For if the farmer does not receive an adequate return the result will be fewer farmers. This result already is in evidence. A report recently issued by the United States Department of Agriculture states that the farm population of the United States was reduced by almost 500,000 during the last year.'...."

Ford and Farming

An editorial in The Wall Street Journal for June 4 says: "Farming is an industry, but it does not yet realize that fact. This, in substance, is what Henry Ford finds is the cause for the so-called farm crisis....Since the industrial revolution the world has made great progress Enterprise, power and division of labor have greatly increased production. This has bettered the condition of the masses of the people, and thus advanced civilization. Employment now is something more than the means of a bare living. It means enjoyment of life through things that once were looked upon as unobtainable luxuries. The farm has not kept up with industry. Previously, self-contained, it still is regarded as a means of living. The trouble is that the farmer wants to continue that condition, but at the same time demands the enjoyment of all the things that the industrialist has. It is right that he should have them, but at a price. It must be the same price that is paid by the industrialist, and he, not the government, must pay it. Ford states tha situation in these words: 'The farmer wants as much money for his work as the industrialist gets for his. The farmer claims that he works harder than the industrialist, and probably he does. But the world does not pay for sweat. It pays for results.' The farmer may work twelve or fourteen hours a day, and work hard. But the idea is that he is not engaged the year round in productive work. On the other hand, the industrialist is engaged the whole year long in turning out goods that the people need for consumption. With a proper amount of machinery a farmer should spend but a small portion of the year in producing crops. The remainder of the year, as Ford says 'is taken up with fruitless tasks which keep him occupied but do not gain him a living.'

No industrialist could make even a bare living by working only a few weeks of the year, no matter how long the hours or hard the work. Wages and profits come out of production In this, agriculture is no different from industry for agriculture now is an industry....This thought was antic ipated in one of the Barron letters from Europe, giving this quotation: 'The solution for industrial Germany, and every other country was for the farms to be attached to the factories so that people worked in the open ai in the summer and in the factories in winter.' The old kind of farm is dead. The farmer has stepped into the industrial world and asks for a share of its returns. He is entitled to the share but must earn it by out put. It is not a matter of how hard he works, but the results obtained. The dairy farm must produce dairy products and give employment the year round. Other types of farmers must find year-round productive work for which the world will pay."

Livestock Problems in Britain

Country Life (London) for May 22 published the following communication from M. Portal: "In your leader in Country Life on the need for a pig-breeding policy, you do not mention the equal need for a really co-operative purchasing-in-bulk policy for meals, etc., which would be sent to the pig-feeders direct by that cooperative purchasing body. I gathered from conversation abroad that the Danish bacon factory is also the purveyor to small-holders of the pigs to fatten, and that the cooperative organization supplies the meals needed at wholesale price, takes his milk, returns him separated milk, and the small-holder eventually gets his dividend in pounds on purchases of meals bought--being surplus profits--and his bacon factory return, less value of his pigs sent him from the factory to feed up. The British farmer will never combine to buy foods in bulk, partly because it is a cash transaction, partly because he likes to be independent and go where he wills; but the difference in price of a 5-ton lot of meal f.o.b. London, if part of a 300-ton purchase, is, frankly, a quarter profit on a pig fed. I traveled up to Glasgow with a Liverpool miller, who told me casually that all their wheat 'offals' went to Denmark because (1) the mill shipped in big lots, (2) drew cash f.o.b. on bill of lading, and (3) were saved waiting for money, saved heavy rail rates and freight to Denmark, less per ton than delivery seventy miles out of Liverpool. How can we compete as now placed?"

Sugar Situation

The National City Bank of New York says: "The sugar industry, from the standpoint both of the producer and refiner, has been through a very trying period. Refiners were enabled to make a little money last year, as sugar prices, while low, were somewhat steadier than in preceding years, and as the refiner's business is buying, refining and selling sugar, he is affected more by price instability than by whether the price itself is high or low. For the producer, however, who for more than a year has seen sugar selling below cost of production, the situation has been peculiarly distressing and has caused much hardship and loss to almost all engaged in that end of the industry...."

Section 3

Department of Agriculture

An editorial in Price Current-Grain Reporter for June 2 says: "An examination of a number of bulletins put out by the Department of Agriculture, telling of violations of the Food and Drugs Act, shows that in so far as the feed trade is concerned, practically all of them are for misbranding. Almost without exception the tags indicated a higher percentage of protein than the feeds actually contained. As everyone knows, no responsible feed manufacturer would knowingly send out any of his products that were deficient in protein or fat or that were adulterated with

worthless or inferior materials and the infinitesimally small percentage found thus defective shows with what great care such matters are regularly handled. It is, of course, unfortunate that once in a while there is a slip-up somewhere in the process of manufacture or in the chemical analysis of the various ingredients or of the finished product, and no one regrets such occurrences more keenly than does the manufacturer. It is common knowledge that there is a wide variation in protein and fat in the feed grains as well as in wheat, and the facts can only be determined by frequent and careful chemical analysis."

## Section 4
## MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products For the week ended June 5: Grain market irregularly firm. Wheat prices sharply higher on private reports of less favorable crop condition. Mills competing for limited supplies of good milling wheat. Corn futures 1 to 2 cents higher for week and cash corn averaging fractionally higher. Receipts liberal and country holdings large. Oats firm with corn but large harvest this grain in Southwest restricting demand there.

Hay market firm. Receipts generally light. Good demand for sound hay eastern and central markets. Situation easier Missouri River markets. Alfalfa receipts Kansas City exceed demand. Some new crop alfalfa out of condition--discounted $3 to $5. Quoted June 5: No.1 timothy - Boston $27.50; New York $30; Pittsburgh $27.50; Cincinnati $26; Chicago $25; St. Louis $26.50; Kansas City $24; Memphis $29.50. No.1 alfalfa (new) Kansas City $17.50; Omaha (new) $18.75; Denver $17.50; Memphis $24. No.1 prairie Kansas City $16.50; Omaha $18.50; Chicago $22; St.Louis $19.50; Minneapolis $17.

Aggregate marketings of cattle at seven of our primary markets sho a moderate increase this week over the week previous, sheep and lambs a more marked supply expansion and hog receipts being practically the same as the preceding week but materially short of the year earlier. Closing prices of hogs at Chicago showed a 10 to 30¢ higher bulk and a 25¢ higher top than last week's closing session, standing at $13.70 to $14.20 and $14.60 respectively. A two way market was had on cattle, weighty steers and best fat cows and heavy heifers advancing while yearlings and low grade she stock worked lower. Vealers advanced 50 to 75¢ at Chicago and stocker and feeder steers were strong to higher on a light supply.

South Carolina Irish Cobbler potatoes $1 to $2 lower at $6 to $8 per barrel in eastern cities; $6 to $6.25 f.o.b. Charleston. Alabama and Louisiana sacked Bliss Triumphs firm at $4 to $4.75 per 100 pounds in the Middle West. California Salmon Tint cantaloupes weaker in eastern consuming centers at $2.75 to $3 per standard 45; firm in midwestern markets at $3 to $3.50 and $1.50 to $1.65 f.o.b. El Centro. Texas Yellow Bermuda onions slightly weaker at $1.50 to $1.90 per crate in distributing centers. Strawberry prices generally lower.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets declined 11 points during the week, closing at 17.81¢ per lb. New York July future contracts declined 19 points, closing at 18.21¢.

Butter markets during the week were quite sensitive, but closed steady to firm to-day. Receivers have followed quite a free selling policy and receipts are slightly more liberal. Production is showing some normal seasonal increase with weather and pasture conditions reported as slightly more favorable. Closing prices on 92 score: New York 41 1/4¢; Chicago 40¢; Philadelphia 42¢; Boston 41 1/2¢. Cheese markets continued steady with prices on the cheese boards of June 4, at Plymouth, Wisconsin, advanced 1/4¢ over the previous week. Trade was fair and margins over board prices of 1¢ to 1 1/2¢ were obtainable. Wholesale prices at Wisconsin primary markets June 4, 1926: Single Daisies 19 1/2¢; Young Americas 19 3/4¢; Longhorns 19 3/4¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

- - -

# DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XXI, No. 58 Section 1 June 8, 1926.

FARM RELIEF LEGISLATION

The Associated Press to-day reports: "House farm leaders called on the administration yesterday for an opinion on the feasibility of the equalization-fee principle in the marketing of products, one of the main points of controversy in the farm legislation debate. At the request of Chairman Haugen, of the House agricultural committee, and other agricultural spokesmen, Secretary Mellon took the question under advisement with a promise to render a decision.

"In the Senate, meanwhile, a wholly new farm-relief bill was brought forward yesterday by Senator Blease. It would provide that no common carrier could charge a higher freight rate on farm products than one-twentieth of the selling price as determined at the point where the products were disposed of. The bill was proposed as a substitute for the cooperative marketing, Corn Belt bill now before the Senate.."

---

TREASURY POSITION

The press to-day says: "Enormously increased Federal revenues from taxes and the tariff have made it possible for the Treasury to omit the usual June financing by the Government, Secretary Mellon announced yesterday. This is the first time since the war that the Treasury has not borrowed money at regular quarterly intervals coincident to the income tax installment dates to which practically all maturities of Government securities have been adjusted. The ability of the Treasury to skip the usual financing dates was made possible by swollen receipts, which indicate the possibility of a surplus for the fiscal year ending June 30 of between $400,000,000 and $500,000,000 instead of $300,000,000 expected by Treasury officials. Omission of new borrowing on June 15 will have no effect on the surplus for the year...."

---

FARM SCHOOL DRIVE

The New York Times to-day states that a five-year drive to raise $15,000,000 to carry on the work of expanding the scope of the National Farm School at Doylestown, Pa., was decided upon yesterday in the closing hours of the school's convention at New York.

---

FOOD RATIONING FOR FRANCE

A Paris dispatch to the press to-day says: "War-time bread cards and coal cards are likely to make their reappearance in France soon in order to help win the 'battle of the franc,' it was said yesterday at the Ministry of Finance."

---

MILWAUKEE AS DAIRY CAPITAL

A Milwaukee dispatch to the press to-day says: "Plans have been matured to make Milwaukee in fact the dairy capital of the Middle West by the erection of huge warehouses where all sorts of dairy products of the Northwest will be stored for orderly marketing and in the case of cheese, for proper curing. The first unit of these warehouses will contain 1,500,000 square feet, of which one-third will be devoted to cold storage at the beginning. All will be used for cold storage as soon as required...."

---

Section 2

"Bawra" to be Dissolved

The New York Times of June 6 reports: "The British Australian Wool Realization Association, commonly known as 'Bawra,' is about to be dissolved. Its last act, which the directors believe will be ratified by shareholders in an extraordinary general meeting at Anzac House, Melbourne, Australia, on June 10, will be to vote the sum of $2,500,000 to charitable and educational institutions. Surplus profits of more than $1,000,000,000 have been distributed among members in five years' activity."

Canned Products

An editorial in The Wall Street Journal for June 7 says: "Exports of canned goods in April were valued at $6,515,700, against $4,320,000 a year ago. Peas and prunes do not bulk large in public thought, but they are important factors in our business life. As representatives of the canning industry, they even have a share in recording the country's business through the stock market averages. The canned goods trade compares well with the cereal exports in April. Multiply value of the exports of corn and oats by two, then add the value of the barley and the sum total approximates the value of the canned goods exported. Wheat flour is one of our important exports, but the canned goods exceeded it in value by about half a million dollars. As for wheat grain, the value of the exports was only 60 per cent of that of the canned goods. To be sure the failure of the wheat crop in 1925 helps to make this comparison more startling, but the figures hold good in other years with the remaining grains. The trade is a growing one. For the ten months of the fiscal year--July 1, 1925 to April 30, 1926--the total export trade was close to $82,000,000. The year before it was $72,290,000, the gain being mostly in fruits and vegetables. Just what was the value of those goods produced and canned last year is not definitely known. Statistics both comprehensive and reliable are lacking. However, the Census Bureau shows that in 1923 the value of the canned goods produced, exclusive of meats and milk, was $566,000,000. Compared with the gross income of the Nation that year, amounting to $70,000,000,000, it looks as if peas and prunes did noble service. They are doing still better now, because the pack in 1925 was the most successful in history, so that the $566,000,000 of 1923 must be considerably increased. Ordinarily, producers and distributors of the raw materials get about 60 per cent of the value of the finished product while labor, capital and enterprise share the other 40 for processing. The 1925 canning pack therefore must have made a wide distribution of wealth. Comfortably ensconsed in its tin cans, that product is now helping in a world-wide expansion of our foreign trade. Its success in the past ten months shows there is in that field a still larger outlet for our surplus production."

German Food Duties

A Berlin dispatch to the press of June 7 says: "The official food-tariff policy announced by the German Government has caused anxiety to consumers. Maximum duties as imposed in last year's Tariff act will come into force on Aug. 1. These duties are 70 marks per ton of wheat and 75 marks per ton of rye. Last year the Luther Cabinet promised that maximum rates would be reduced by treaty, but in the only treaty thus far arranged--that with Sweden--rates are reduced only to 60 and 65 marks, respectively, but even the pre-war rates were no higher than 50 and 55 marks. If no new treaties are made, American wheat will have to bear a duty of 60 marks per ton and American rye a duty of 65."

Pecan Industry — An editorial in Florida Times-Union for June 1 says: "Spending two days in Jacksonville attending the twentieth annual meeting of the Georgia-Florida Pecan Growers' Association, members from two States have returned home with some new ideas and better pleased over the prospects and conditions in the industry. The fact that an association has been in existence twenty years suggests that the raising of pecan nuts has engaged attention in Florida and Georgia for quite a while, and the inference is that it has steadily advanced to be an important factor in the sections where introduced....In the meeting here recently it was shown that active and increasing interest obtains in the industry and steadily, although not rapidly, the orchards are extending and newcomers are taking up the work with a view to making it an important part of their holdings....There is no longer excuse for handling the crop as a side line or purely accidental or incidental acquirement. The demand and supply make pecans a regular feature of trade, and the growers secure the best results through adherence to standards, classification and grades. Pecan growing is one of the industries in Florida that has almost illimitable possibilities....The industry is among those now figuring profits in the millions and will go much higher."

Weevil Infestation — An editorial in The Journal of Commerce for June 7 says: "An effort is being made to have Congress appropriate a sum of money for combatting a new kind of cotton weevil that is said to have made its way across the Rio Grande into at least one of our States. If, as is alleged, this new pest constitutes a real menace and is likely to spread as did the boll weevil from the South northward, until virtually the whole cotton belt is affected, now, of course, is the time to fight it. Such may or may not be the fact of the case, and Congress should ascertain the real truth of the situation before releasing funds for the purpose in question....Without question the boll weevil has proved itself an exceptionally difficult insect to control. That, however, hardly affords convincing excuse for the fact that it is today more or less in control of the cotton situation at all times when weather is favorable for its growth and multiplication. There must be some way of dealing more effectively with this pest than is at present feasible. That such a method has not been found does not speak altogether well for the Department of Agriculture."

Woll on Farm Situation — The press of June 7 says: "Matthew Woll, one of the vice presidents of the American Federation of Labor, in a statement June 6, declared that the agricultural uprising ...was no longer a protest of a handful of 'radical' Senators, but that it was a 'revolution' by the farming interests 'against the dominating control of the Federal administration by large financial, manufacturing and commercial interests--big business.'...."

World Wheat Situation — W. Sanford Evans, writing in The Northwestern Miller for May 26 says: "Canada, if necessary, could contribute 6,000,000 bus. wheat and flour per week from now until July 31 to world shipments. This would be inclusive of Canadian wheat in United States positions and of any flour from Canadian wheat taken after this date for milling in bond in the United States. For the next few weeks there could be a higher rate of shipment, if required, because a considerable part of the reserves will be in available positions. The probability is, however, that actual shipments may be somewhat smaller than the above average, because purchasers abroad may prefer a little more even delivery of Canada's old crop surplus, which would call for larger deliveries in August and the first half of September than would be possible if so much was shipped before Aug. 1. In respect to the

Argentine surplus there is the undetermined question of how much is fit for milling. On paper, Argentina should have had on hand on May 22 about 68,000,000 bus. wheat, good and bad, for shipment between that date and Dec. 31. If a percentage of the crop, as estimated by the Government, is really unmillable, then this surplus must be reduced accordingly. There is no reliable information upon this point, but merely to show how the surplus would be affected it may be pointed out that if, say, 10 per cent of the crop is unmillable, the surplus would have to be reduced by approximately 20,000,000 bus. A low recent private opinion is that only about 36,000,000 bus. remain for export, which, if not based on a different crop estimate, would mean that about 16 per cent war regarded as not good for milling. Countries like Argentina and Australia do not clean out all their exportable surpluses by Aug. 1. All the wheat is not delivered by that date, and it would be unsafe to overship. Since trade became more or less normal after the war, Argentina always has had from 10,000,000 to 35,000,000 bus. to ship between Aug. 1 and Dec. 31. At least 10,000,000 bus. should, therefore, be deducted from the present surplus to represent what Argentina might be able to contribute between now and Aug. 1....What will happen, of course, is that new crop wheat will begin to be shipped before the end of July from the United States, and a little from the Black Sea. The world will get through again this year, as it generally does, without discomfort, but the quantities of old wheat carried forward to the new crop year are likely to be about at the practical minimum."

---

Section 3

Department of Agriculture

1 An editorial in The Washington Post for June 6 says: "The advocates of Government control and price-fixing of 'basic agricultural products' would be more convincing if the panaceas they formerly supported had not proved to be failures. There are the marketing bureaus of the Department of Agriculture and the Department of Commerce. They were to take care of the surplus and solve the farm problem. Then came the 'dirt farmer' on the Federal Reserve Board, who was to protect the farmer against the money devil and 'solve the farm problem.' Then there was the intermediate credit bank system, which was to 'solve the farm problem.' In each case the spokesmen of the farmers threatened political death to all who opposed these panaceas. The remedies were applied, and the disease is worse than ever. ...The marketing bureaus of the Departments of Agriculture and Commerce could be utilized more effectively in finding foreign markets for the agricultural surplus; but the surplus is not a serious problem, in spite of all the agitated talk concerning it, and it is not necessary to invent a complicated scheme for exporting farm products. The cotton raised in the United States is exported in enormous quantities, and no Government control or price-fixing is needed. Manufacturers sometimes have surpluses, which they dispose of without the paternal assistance of the Government. Elimination of loss in refrigeration would save millions to the farmers. This can be accomplished by cooperation. The same may be said of warehousing. Terminal warehousing is antiquated. Terminals were built when horse and cart deliveries were in vogue, and now they are cramped, overfilled, and inaccessible to trucks. They should be rebuilt in places where modern distributing facilities can be provided...."

2 The New York Times of June 6, in recording the Federal building program announced on June 5, says: "The construction of the central part of the administration building of the Department of Agriculture will realize a dream of the late James Wilson of Iowa, who was Secretary of Agriculture during the McKinley, Roosevelt and Taft administrations, holding

a record of Cabinet service. When Congress, years ago, during Secretary Wilson's tenure appropriated money for a new Agriculture Department building, Mr. Wilson, known to many as 'Uncle Jimmy' and 'Tama Jim,' was dissatisfied with the amount, as it was not sufficient to enable him to build a structure of the size and character he wanted. So he built two marble wings, widely separated, with the idea that in the course of time Congress would provide enough money to connect them, and thus make the headquarters of the Federal agricultural administration a really handsome and pretentious affair. To-day's allocation means that the white marble wings are to be connected and 'Uncle Jimmy's' dream realized."

## Section 4
## MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products June 7: Chicago hog prices closed at $14.85, bulk of sales $14 to $14.60. Beef steers choice $9.90 to $10.60; heifers, good and choice $7.60 to $9.90; cows, good and choice, $6.65 to $8.15; canner and cutter $3.75 to $4.75; vealers, medium to choice, $10.50 to $13.75; heavy calves, medium to choice, $6.50 to $8.25; stocker and feeder steers, common to choice $6.75 to $9.10; fat lambs medium to choice $16.25 to $19.20; yearling wethers, medium to choice, $13.25 to $17; fat ewes, common to choice, $4.25 to $6.75.

South Carolina Irish Cobbler potatoes declined 75¢ to $1. closing at $6 to $7.50 per barrel in eastern markets; $6 to $6.25 f.o.b. Charleston. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites advanced 60 to 70¢ on the Chicago carlot market to $3 to $3.35 and to $2.50 to $2.75 f.o.b. Waupaca. Texas Yellow Bermuda onions 25¢ to 40¢ lower at $1.25 to $1.75 per crate in consuming centers. California Salmon Tint cantaloupes, ranged $2.75 to $3.75 per standard 45 in terminal markets and $1.50 to $1.75 f.o.b. El Centro. Delaware and Maryland various varieties of strawberries mostly around 15 to 20¢ quart basis in Eastern markets. Missouri and Kentucky Aromas $3.25 to $4.00 per 24-quart crate in midwestern markets; $2.10 to $2.85 auction sales at Monett, Missouri.

Closing prices on 92 score butter: New York 41 1/4¢; Chicago 39 3/4¢; Philadelphia 42¢; Boston 41 1/2¢.

Grain prices quoted June 7: No.1 dark northern Minneapolis $1.65 to $1.74. No.2 red winter Chicago $1.56; St.Louis $1.60. No.2 hard winter Chicago $1.64 1/2; St.Louis $1.64. No.2 mixed corn Chicago 72 3/4¢. No.3 mixed corn Chicago 70 1/4¢; Minneapolis 66¢. No.2 yellow corn Chicago 73¢. No.3 yellow corn Chicago 71¢; St. Louis 71¢; Minneapolis 69 1/2¢. No.3 white corn Chicago 70 3/4¢; St. Louis 75¢. No.3 white oats Chicago 41 1/2¢; St. Louis 43¢; Minneapolis 38 3/4¢.

Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets declined 9 points during the week, closing at 17.83¢ per lb. New York July future contracts declined 15 points, closing at 18.25¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

Industrials and Railroads

| Average closing price | June 7, | June 5, | June 6, 1925 |
|---|---|---|---|
| 20 Industrials | 145.44 | 145.36 | 128.85 |
| 20 R.R. stocks | 110.91 | 110.84 | 98.60 |

(Wall St. Jour., June 8.)

- - -

# DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XXI, No. 59 Section 1 June 9, 1926.

CREDIT EXTENSION FOR FARM RELIEF A White Sulphur Springs, W. Va., dispatch to the press to-day says: "Indiscriminate extension of more credit to farmers will not help them out of their difficulties, declared George R. James, of Memphis, Tenn., a member of the Federal Reserve Board, in speaking before the second annual convention of the National Fertilizer Association here to-day. 'I am unalterably of the opinion that an indiscriminately liberal policy by the Government in the use of credit is not a factor in successful agriculture,' he said. Speaking on 'Some of the Fundamentals of Successful Farming,' Mr. James pointed out basic principles which, he said, must necessarily be employed if farming as an industry is to be made successful. 'I am a firm believer in the established fact that "as the soil so are the people," he declared in defining what he termed the most important basis to permanent national prosperity--maintenance of soil fertility. 'We can not have a rich and prosperous people on poor land.' Mr. James said he spoke from his fifteen years of experience in farming in the Mississippi Valley and an extensive study of farming conditions in the Memphis trade territory.

Charles J. Brand, of Washington, formerly consulting specialist in marketing of the United States Department of Agriculture, and executive secretary and treasurer of the association, reported that the fertilizer industry, representing a capital investment of $300,000,000, has been in the same case with the farmer, only more so, the last five years, although there was some improvement last year. Comparison of index numbers of all commodities, farm commodities and other groups shows that the prices of fertilizers are at the very bottom, he pointed out. The last years, however, have shown sufficient improvement to encourage the expectation that the industry will be able to regain a stable footing. The lack of more perfect farm implements for applying fertilizer is a chief difficulty toward its greater use by America's farmers, Mr. Brand said, but a greater obstacle is the lack on hundreds of thousands of farms of even such distributing machinery as implement manufacturers are already building and selling."

---

TABER MILK BILL The Taber bill, to require rigid tests of milk imported from foreign countries, was approved yesterday by the House Agriculture Committee. A similar measure is pending in the Senate. The proposal is aimed largely at milk shipped from Eastern Canadian provinces. (Press, June 9.)

---

BRITISH SPINNING OPERATIONS A Manchester, England, dispatch to the press to-day says: "The Short Time Organization Committee of the Federation of Master Cotton Spinners' Associations decided to-day that Lancashire mills spinning American cotton shall shut down on alternate weeks, beginning next Monday. The Chairman said the decision had been reached owing to the continued unsatisfactory state of the yarn market and the difficulties firms are encountering in obtaining fuel supplies. The arrangement will continue until the coal dispute is ended."

---

RETIREMENT LEGISLATION Government employes' retirement legislation, dormant for the last few weeks, was thrown into conference yesterday with the indications that the bill as passed by the House will in the end prevail.... There is the possibility that in conference and in the light of the recently reported good standing of the Government's bank account, the bill may be liberalized in some of its less important features.....(Press, June 9.)

Section 2

Crop Prospects

An editorial in New York Commercial for April 7 says: "Forecasting agricultural crop production is still very much in the same position as when the old time weather man was wont to cast his 'weather eye' upward and 'guess it would rain tomorrow.' Nor can there be any surety in crop production prophecies until long range weather forecasting has reached a far higher plane of efficiency and recognition than where it now stands. This is because of the two major factors that determine final crop yields, acreage and weather, it is the latter that affords the greatest cause for radical fluctuations.....Because only average weather conditions can be calculated in advance crop production estimates, the following prophecies are based on the assumption that future 1926 weather will be normal. The wheat crop for 1925 was 669,365,000 bushels, which production contrasts with the ten-year average of 800,725,500 bushels. This year's acreage devoted to wheat is 56,969,450, a total which, if average weather continues throughout 1926 and the average ten-year yield of 13.8 bushels is obtained, should give us a crop of 786,000,000 bushels. The 3,565,000 acres devoted to rye this year will supply about 50,000,000 bushels, if the ten-year average of 13.9 bushels is obtained. Our ten-year average for rye is 67,865,700 bushels. Thus it is expected that wheat production will be increased, with a shortage of rye. Corn, if average weather conditions persist, should total, during 1926, about the ten-year average yield, or approximately 2,900,000,000 bushels. The oat crop is expected to drop 100,000,000 bushels from last year's crop of 1,500,000,000. Barley production, however, should be good this year, 206,000,000 bushels being expected over the 191,000,000 of the ten-year average. Barley production last year, however, was over 218,000,000 bushels. Tobacco should remain about the same as last year (1,346,000,000 pounds), with a slight increase in flax due to increased acreage. In 1925 cotton production totaled 16,086,000 bales, which contrasts with the 11,722,000 bales of the ten-year average. Based on the average yield of 153.7 pounds of lint per acre, the 44,000,000 acres planted this year will return an approximate total of 13,500,000 bales--a reduction of 2,500,000 bales from last year, but still nearly 15 per cent above the ten-year average."

Farm Surplus

Melvin A. Traylor, president of the First National Bank of Chicago, is quoted in Commerce and Finance for June 2 as saying: "With the exception of cotton and cattle on farms, agricultural production has been almost uniform in the two periods 1911-15 and 1921-25, which eliminates, of course, the five-year period from 1916 to 1920 inclusive, which embraced the activity of the war and the early post-war inflation. In no case, has production anywhere approached an increase commensurate with the increase in population between the two dates. It, therefore, seems perfectly obvious that the so-called surplus production is largely a myth, and that the cause of the farmer's complaint, that he is not making a profit from his farm operations, must be looked for in some other direction. It seems to me that present difficulties had their inception largely in inflation of prices prevailing for agricultural products from about 1915 to 1920, with the consequent, of course, large expansion of profits from farming operations. This increase of profit led, as inevitably with the farmer as with the manufacturer, to the expansion of plant and equipment, meaning, of course, the acquirement by the individual of larger acreage and of modern, if not always efficient, machinery for the conduct of his business. These statements are general and do not apply to every one engaged in the business, because in farming as in other activities, there are always some

who play the game safely and conservatively, and this is amply proven by the fact that there are thousands, literally millions, of farmers who have gone through the recent crisis without any difficulty or stress, and who are to-day prosperous, happy and contented. In fact, my information leads me to believe that the complaints to-day with regard to farming operations are coming from less than 25 per cent of the farmers of the country, and from the horde of politicians who are seeking to make capital out of the situation."

Rural Councils in Britain The Field (London) for May 20 says: "One of the consequences of the general unrest which followed the end of the war was the formation of Rural Community Councils. The work of these councils has been done quietly and little limelight has been focused on them hitherto. However, at a meeting of the Farmers' Club recently a paper on 'The Progress and Work of Rural Community Councils' was read by Guy Ewing--the chairman of the Kent Rural Community Council....Speaking of the Kent Council, Mr. Ewing said that while it 'is primarily a consultive and advisory body, it has--when requested to do so--taken practical steps to investigate and assist in the solution of those general problems affecting the rural community which call for united effort of all classes and of all interests.'... Perhaps the most important branch of the council's work is the investigation into rural industries. In Kent more than 550 craftsmen have been interviewed in their shops, and this number includes blacksmiths, wheelwrights, saddlers, basket makers, hurdle makers, hoop makers, and potters. The work has been done in consultation with the Rural Industries Bureau, and farmers and other country residents have been asked to support local industries as far as possible rather than to give their orders to the town factories....Another branch of the work which will appeal to agriculturists is that of training young men to skilled farm work. There is an undoubted shortage of these men...."

"Urbanization" An editorial in The New York Times for June 3 says: "That the urbanization of the United States has not been so rapid as a casual reading of the census figures seems to indicate, is the contention of Mr. Robert W. McCullough in The Survey. Admitting that the relative decline of the rural population was marked between 1880 and 1920, he argues that the drift from the farms to the big cities has not been what is popularly supposed....Between 1900 and 1920 about 4,620,000 people passed from the rural to the urban classification without ever leaving their homes. Instead of the large cities receiving the bigger part of increase, places having from 25,000 to 100,000 population had the greater gain. Mr. McCullough also shows that the bulk of the immigrants settle in urban regions. They add to the bookkeeping increase of urban population without representing a loss from the rural regions. Making deductions for this element, the urban increase rate drops from 66.4 per cent to 52.1 per cent. The corrected rate of increase for the rural population is 23.6 per cent, which is about equal to the normal increase of births over deaths. Interesting as are these figures, they should not be taken as indicating that the cityward frend has been checked. The back-to-the-farm movement has never been really popular, and the lure of towns and cities--even if only in the 25,000 to 100,000 class--continues to be so strong as to be a problem of national importance. It is true that mechanical devices have greatly increased the agricultural output in proportion to the number of agricultural laborers, thus liberating a certain proportion of the farm

population. The average production per acre will undoubtedly be improved as scientific methods of farming become more general. But the drift from the farm to the town remains constant. Development of the country as a whole has brought about conditions in which wage-earners, as distinguished from persons in business for themselves, feel that they are better off in towns and cities than in villages."

---

Section 3

MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products June 8: North and South Carolina Irish Cobbler potatoes sold mostly around $5.75 to $6.75 per barrel in eastern markets; $5.75 to $6 f.o.b. Charleston. Texas Yellow Bermuda onions ranged $1.25 to $1.75 per standard crate in consuming centers. Florida fancy wrapped tomatoes sold at $3 to $4 per six-basket carrier in leading markets; $2.75 f.o.b. South Carolina stock $4 in New York. California Salmon Tint cantaloupes $2.75 to $3.50 per standard 45 in distributing centers; $1.50 to $1.75 f.o.b. El Centro.

Chicago hog prices closed at $15.00 for the top, bulk of sales $14.65 to $15; beef steers, choice $9.75 to $10.35; heifers, good and choice $7 to $9; cows, good and choice $6.25 to $7.50; canner and cutter $3.25 to $5.25. Vealers, medium to choice $8.50 to $12.50; heavy calves medium to choice $6.50 to $8.50; fat lambs , medium to choice $15.50 to $17.85; yearling wethers, medium to choice $10.50 to $15.25; fat ewes, common to choice, $3.50 to $6.

Grain prices quoted June 8: No.1 dark northern Minneapolis $1.66 to $1.75. No.2 red winter St. Louis $1.60; Kansas City $1.64. No.2 hard winter St. Louis $1.64; Kansas City $1.70. No.2 mixed corn Chicago 74¢; No.3 mixed corn Chicago 71¢; Minneapolis 68¢. No.2 yellow corn Chicago 74 1/2¢; No.3 yellow corn Chicago 72 1/2¢; St. Louis 72¢; Minneapolis 72¢; Kansas City 73¢. No.3 white corn Chicago 72¢; St.Louis 75¢; Kansas City 73 1/4¢. No.3 white oats - Chicago 42¢; St. Louis 43¢; Minneapolis 40¢; Kansas City 42 1/4¢.

Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets advanced 10 points, closing at 17.93¢ per lb. New York July future contracts advanced 11 points, closing at 18.36¢. (Prepared by the Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

---

- - -

# DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XXI, No. 60 Section 1 June 10, 1926

FARM RELIEF LEGISLATION The New York Times to-day reports: "While leading administration Republicans declare that nothing has occurred to change their viewpoint or their votes on farm legislation, the Iowa primary, in which former Senator Brookhart won the Republican nomination over Senator Cummings, has invested the farm relief situation with a new importance, and efforts are being made to press the Senate to a vote on the pending Haugen bill. But there is trepidation over what the House may do with the bill should the Senate pass it. The House has already rejected this measure, and there is a strong belief it would stand out against it on another test....It was said by persons close to the administration that the President is exceedingly anxious that farm legislation shall be enacted at this session. But he would rather have no legislation, so it is asserted, than see Congress frightened into passing a bill based on what he regards as an unsound principle, which, he holds, might injure the farmer more than it would help him....The President is represented as having hoped that the co-operative marketing bill would have become a law long ago. It passed the House early in the session, but has been held up in the Senate because the sponsors of the Corn Belt equalization fee bill have attached their plan as a 'rider.' The President has made it plain that he would sign the Jardine-Tincher bill if Congress saw fit to pass it. It was said to-day the President feels it is not too late for Congress yet to act upon this bill. Senator Fess of Ohio continued his attack on the bill yesterday. Replying to a statement by Senator McNary that he would be willing to have the section creating a board to determine fair prices eliminated, Senator Fess declared: 'The Senator is emerging.' 'I hope,' retored Senator McNary, 'before we finish, we'll educate you to this bill.'...."

---

WHEAT PRICES The Senate yesterday adopted the Shipstead resolution calling for a report from the Grain Futures Administration on wheat price fluctuations in 1925 and the reasons for changes, according to the press to-day.

---

POSTAGE RATES ON FARM PRODUCTS The Senate yesterday passed a bill fixing the postage at one-half regular rates on farm products mailed directly from the farm for delivery by rural routes. (Press, June 10.)

---

NITROGEN PRODUCTION A White Sulphur Springs, W. Va., dispatch to the press to-day says: "Commercial fixation of nitrogen from the air is progressing much more rapidly in Europe, particularly in Germany, than in the United States, declared Harry A. Curtis, professor of chemical engineering of Yale University, in an address before the second annual convention of the National Fertilizer Association at White Sulphur Springs yesterday. 'It is unlikely that the air nitrogen industry in the United States will be much of a factor in the agricultural nitrogen situation for the next few years at least,' said Prof. Curtis, 'but the general effect of the increasing production of the air nitrogen industry in Europe and elsewhere will certainly be to lower nitrogen prices.' ...."

---

Section 2

Back-to-Farm Movement

An editorial in The Wall Street Journal for June 8 says: "Statistics presented at the National Farm School Conference in New York show that the farms are losing population to the cities. At the same conference a speaker from the Middle West of national reputation predicted that under present conditions there would be a food shortage in the next fifty years. It is easy to utterly misconstrue the meaning of these two statements. Neither of them discloses a reason for a hasty revival of the 'Back to the farm' movement so unwisely inaugurated by Mr. Roosevelt twenty-odd years ago. That cry, if taken up, might be further reinforced by figures recently made public elsewhere that in 1925 there were 75,700 less farms than in 1920. Apparently, our food supply is endangered. But such is not the case. There may be less farms but there is more land in cultivation now than before. In 1909 our entire area under cultivation was 311,300,000 acres. Under the stimulus of war and wartime prices it was increased to 368,800,000 in 1919. From that it went to 373,600,000 in 1923. It must be understood that this is not the entire farm area, but the land actually under cultivation. Here is one of our troubles to-day with the farm situation. Too much land is under cultivation....It is a good thing that 865,000 more people went from the farms than from the cities to the land, last year. There are too many people on the farms.... For years there has been a drift from the farms to the cities. In 1855, the farms held 55 per cent of the population, and now only 42 per cent. But has anyone gone hungry in that time? The farms feed the people and produce a surplus because machinery and methods have improved to such an extent that one man on one acre of land can produce more food now than ever before. Therefore, the farms need less people on them. A decreasing farm population is inevitable and desirable. Agriculture will retain those best fitted and trained for production, and, if the others go into industry the country, instead of losing will be the gainer thereby. A 'back to the farm' movement now would be a step backward."

Bacon Hogs

An editorial in The Wisconsin Agriculturist for June 5 says: "The bacon hog industry in northern Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota and the Dakotas is growing because this type of hog does not depend upon a corn ration for growth. In fact, little or no corn produces the best bacon and the market is not affected by over or under production of the land or corn fed hog, as there are never more bacon hogs than are in demand. Northern farmers are learning that they really are in a favored position. They are seeing in the development of the dairy industry in Wisconsin, Minnesota and Michigan, the simple facts that geography and climate often prove the key to success....As the bacon hog system of farming does not require the use of much care, it will make little difference to northern farmers whether the corn hog ratio in the Corn Belt is favorable or otherwise, whether it is 14 to one, or nine to one. This system of swine production has proved very profitable in Canada without the inclusion of corn of any sort, and it can be made equally profitable in Wisconsin, with our skummilk, buttermilk, alfalfa, oats, barley, peas, etc. In fact, there is nothing to fear for the success of the enterprise."

Farmers and Prosperity

An editorial in The Washington Post for June 8 says: "Again it is asserted that the reports of national prosperity do not take account of adversity among the farmers, failures, abandoned farms and $13,000,000,000 loss in the wealth of the farmers. No one disputes the claim that depression prevails in many sections of the country devoted wholly to agriculture. But the figures purporting to define that depression are too often inaccurate

and misleading. It is entirely unfair and inaccurate to compare the value of all farm property in 1920 with the value of all farm property in 1925, for the reason that the values of farm property measured in the dollars of 1920 were inflated about 50 per cent and often more. The official census figures state that the total value of farm lands and buildings in 1920 was about $66,316,000,000, and in 1925 was about $49,546,000,000, an apparent loss of about $16,000,000,000. But all values in 1920 were inflated and fictitious. The census reports that the value of all farm property in 1910 was about $40,991,000,000, and about $77,924,000,000 in 1920. Everybody knows that the actual value of farm property did not increase $27,000,000,000 in ten years. The apparent increase was fictitious, just as the apparent decrease in values between 1920 and 1925 was fictitious. The employment of figures to express 'values' is very deceptive unless it is explained what kind of a dollar is used in the calculation. The farmers between 1913 and 1919 probably enjoyed a larger percentage of apparent increases in national wealth and national income than any other group of citizens....Normal conditions are returning more slowly to agriculture than to industries. Agriculture felt the inflation and war prosperity first, and is getting back to normalcy last. If the operations of economic laws are relied upon and foolish legislation avoided, the returning prosperity and all the benefits thereof will surely reach agriculture. It has touched agriculture already in some sections...."

Iowa Motor Truck Library

A Des Moines dispatch to the press of June 8 states that a library mounted on a motor truck will travel into the rural districts of Iowa this summer to demonstrate the educational value of county circulating libraries. The Iowa Library Association, which seeks to establish circulating libraries in each county now without library service, is sponsoring the demonstrations.

Population Growth and Food

An editorial in New York Commercial for June 8 says: "Doubtless the chief reason which moved Colonel William Boyce Thompson to found the Boyce Thompson Institute, Yonkers, N.Y., was to help solve the problem, how to feed the 300,000,000 people who will eventually populate the United States. Though surplus crops now and then fret our farmers, it is the well considered verdict of numerous recognized authorities on world food problems that this country is fast approaching the day when it must import great quantities of grains and meats....As population swells, the demand for grains increases to an extent that is almost incredible. The annual disappearance of wheat in the United States amounts to roughly five bushels per capita, taking one year with another, and in the United Kingdom the weekly consumption of flour is put at twelve pounds per family. American and British people in particular are apt to forget that although wheat is their staple bread grain, rice serves as such for a far greater number of human beings....We are to be congratulated because it is unprecedented prosperity that enables Americans to indulge in the luxury of being large per capita consumers of meats. How dear this indulgence is may be gauged from the fact that to make a pound of meat requires as much land as eight to ten loaves of bread and that one beef animal eats as much as five men, requiring therefore five times as much land for his support....Likewise, though American workers are especially well paid, the fact remains that if farm land were less plentiful we could not for long continue to follow the extravagant plan of feeding to animals 80 per cent of all the grains we produce besides hay from more than 50,000,000 acres and to pasture them over tens of millions of acres where they eat all the grass. In view of the many intricacies of the domestic farming situation, of which we have touched upon but a few of the less obvious, it is safe to say that it

will call for all the ability of our statesmen and the casting aside of all partisan political expedients to restore and maintain a satisfactory equilibrium to the agricultural complex of a country as opulent as the United States undoubtedly is."

Soy Bean Tariff

An editorial in Orange Judd Illinois Farmer for June 1 says: "An effort is being made to remove the protective tariff on soy beans and soy bean oil, so that these products may be brought in free of duty from Oriental countries to compete with the home raised product. These efforts are believed to be at least partly backed by foreign capital. There is at present a tariff of 2 1/2 cents a pound on soy bean oil and 30 cents a bushel on soy beans. Soy bean cake and meal pay no tariff. Importations of the oil and the beans run into the millions of pounds and thousands of tons, with also some seventy-two million pounds of soy bean cake and meal. The Staley Manufacturing Company of Decatur, Illinois, which has taken a leading part in the development of the Illinois soy bean industry, is outspoken in its opposition to any such removal of the soy bean tariff. 'With the aid of our existing protective tariff,' says Frederick A. Wand, of the Staley Company, 'we believe we can build up a soy bean industry that will mean hundreds of thousands of dollars increase in the income on corn belt farms. With this protection oil mills can pay a price for beans that will enable farmers to realize a profit on the crop. Without tariff protection our Illinois farmers would have no hope of competing with the cheap coolie labor that produces soy beans in the Orient. Unrestricted importation of soy beans and soy bean products would be an extremely serious blow at the foundation of American agriculture. It would injure our domestic market, not only for soy bean oil, but for corn oil, peanut oil, cottonseed oil and lard.'"

Western Wool Market

A Portland, Ore., dispatch to the press of June 7 says: "Eastern buyers again are seeking wool supplies at Oregon, Washington and Idaho points, but little business is resulting. Sheepmen appear unwilling to accept current bids, which are around 25 to 26 cents for coarse clips to 28 and 30 cents for choicer grades."

Wool Situation

The Commercial Bulletin for June 5 says: "Whether the better weather is responsible or not is not clear, but there is a slight improvement in the demand for wool and the attitude of the trade is more hopeful, although prices are not improved any, as yet, and some members of the trade still are pessimistic. The export movement is expanding. London opened about as expected and has been fairly steady through the week, with finer wools very firm. The Australian season ended strong at Brisbane Wednesday. In the West wool moves slowly but steadily at prices slightly under the recent high levels, say one to two cents on the average in the grease. Wools offered at sealed bid sales in Texas have been withdrawn, prices being considered too low by growers."

Section 3

MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products June 9: Closing prices closed at $14.90 for the top, bulk of sales $14.10 to $14.60; beef steers heifers, good and choice $7.75 to $10, cows, good and choice $6.75 to $8.35, common and medium $4.85 to $6.75; canner and cutter $3.85 to $4.85; vealers, medium to choice, $10 to $13.75; heavy calves medium to choice $6.50 to $8.25; stocker and feeder steers common to choice $6.75 to $9.10; fat lambs medium to choice $15.75 to $18.95; yearling wethers, medium to choice $12.50 to $16.50; fat ewes, common to choice $4.50 to $7.

South Carolina Irish Cobbler potatoes $1 to $1.75 lower at $5.50 to $7 per barrel in eastern cities; $5.50 to $5.75 f.o.b. Charleston. California Salmon Tint cantaloupes ranged $2.75 to $3.50 in terminal markets and $1.60 to $1.85 f.o.b. El Centro. Texas Yellow Bermuda onions 25 to 35¢ lower at $1 to $1.75 per crate in consuming centers. Florida fancy count tomatoes lower at $2.75 to $4 per six-basket carrier in leading markets; $2.50 f.o.b. South Carolina stock $3 to $4 in New York City.

Closing prices on 92 score butter: New York 42¢; Chicago 40 1/4¢; Philadelphia 43¢; Boston 42¢.

Grain prices quoted June 9: No.1 dark northern Minneapolis $1.63 to $1.77. No.2 red winter Chicago $1.55 1/2; St.Louis $1.61 1/2¢; No.2 hard winter Chicago $1.66 1/2; St.Louis $1.64. No.2 mixed corn Chicago 74 1/4¢. No.3 mixed corn Chicago 71 1/2¢; Minneapolis 67 1/2¢. No.2 yellow corn Chicago 74 3/4¢. No.3 yellow corn Chicago 72 1/4¢; St.Louis 72 1/2¢; Minneapolis 72¢. No.3 white corn Chicago 72 1/2¢; St. Louis 75¢. No.3 white oats Chicago 42 1/4¢; St.Louis 43¢; Minneapolis 40 1/4¢.

Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets declined 3 points closing at 17.90¢ per lb. New York July future contracts declined 6 points, closing at 18.30¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

| Industrials and Railroads | Average closing price | June 9, | June 8, | June 9, 1925 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 20 Industrials | 145.56 | 145.50 | 127.21 |
| | 20 R.R. stocks | 111.20 | 110.63 | 97.15 |

(Wall St. Jour., June 10.)

---

- - -